



Knights News Line

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St. Andrew's Knights of Columbus

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Grand Knights Message for January

Brothers and family members of our council, I wish all a very happy New Year.

As we welcome in this New Year in the warmth of our homes, 81 years ago some of our fathers, uncles and grandfathers sat in foxholes shivering in the snow and bitter sub-zero cold in Belgium and Luxembourg in the coldest winter in 50 years. The "Battle of the Bulge" was Germany's last great offensive drive in an attempt to push back the allied army. Tom Brokaw, in his book, called these men the "Greatest Generation", and there are only a few of these veterans left. Let us never forget the sacrifices they made for the freedoms we have today. ***

We have a fellow Knight and veteran who will be celebrating his 103rd birthday this month. That person is Sir Knight Philip F. Svoboda PGK and 4th degree Sir Knight. He is our council's eldest Brother. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Phil. We were able to secure a loan for our council's building when he put up his own home as collateral in order to secure a loan. He is a Veteran and Patriot having received the Patriotism 4th Degree over 75 years ago. Thank you Phil, and I wish you a very happy birthday.

We have another Brother who recently celebrated his 100th birthday this past November and who is our second eldest member. Happy Birthday FDD PGK Michael Vallillo.

We had our Thanksgiving food basket drive for a number of needy families on Nov. 23rd. Avenel School 4 & 5 did a tremendous job in collecting 70 bags of food and loading it into our brothers' vehicles on Nov. 19th. The balance of food was donated to the St. Vincent DePaul food bank. Thanks to PGK Joe Kraus who chaired this event as well as Brother Pat Costello, PGK's Al Favale, Tom Botti, John Hugelmeyer and Hank Werte who pitched in to help.

We had our annual Christmas party on Dec. 13th at our council hall from 6 to 10pm. Thanks to PGK Joe Kraus for chairing this annual event.

Finally, on Jan. 29th our council will be hosting the Metuchen Diocese Chapter meeting at our hall with the Chapter and State Officers in attendance. As of December a Bishop has not been installed. We may or may not have a new Bishop in attendance as of this writing.

I wish all in our council a healthy and prosperous new year.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus

GK Mike *** in memory Curtis G. Daley 4th Infantry Division.



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Columbian Year 2025-2026

Council Officers

Grand Knight	Curtis (Mike) Daley 732-388-6050 908-227-9277
Chaplain	Fr David Kosmoski 732-634-4355
Deputy Grand Knight	Pete Orazi
Chancellor	PGK Tom Botti 908-930-1859
Financial Secretary	PGK Frank Buczynski 732-887-5501 pgkfrank@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	PGK John Hugelmeyer
Treasurer	PGK Joe Kraus
Advocate	PGK Frank Pelzman
Warden	Pat Costello
Guards	Michael Caracappa Javier Huerta Dave Kearney
Trustees	3yr PGK Eric Potyrala 2yr PGK Al Favale 1yr PGK Frank Panzino

Council Directors

Membership	PGK Tom Botti
Program	FDD/PGK Greg Schmitt
Church Activities	FDD/PGK Greg Schmitt
Lecturer	PGK Dennis Rinaldi
Family	PGK Tom Botti
Fraternal Activities	PGK Eric Potyrala 732-634-8620
Community	PGK Frank Pelzman

Remember to Call

Death of Member or	PGK Jim Farese
Member's Family	732-331-5651 or GK Mike Daley
Sick or Hospitalized	PGK Eric Potyrala
Member	

Board of Governors

President	PGK Jim Farese 732-331-5651
Vice President	FDD/PGK Greg Schmitt 732-397-4907
Treasurer	Robert Indyke
Secretary	PGK Al Favale
Past Grand Knights	PGK Joe Gornicz PGK Frank Panzino PGK Dennis Rinaldi
Trustees	3yr PGK Anthony Fazioli 2yr PGK Carmine Farese 1yr Pat Costello
Third Degree	Bill Unger Mark Haidacher Anthony Joe Jesse DeLuca Andrew Curry
Grand Knight	Mike Daley
Deputy Grand Knight	Pete Orazi
Honorary Members	PGK/PFN Phil Svoboda PGK Hank Werte

Chairman

Oasis	Cory Spillar 732-236-4501
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Payroll Chairman
Building Maintenance

Important Phone Numbers

Council Home	732-636-9696
Booking Agent	732-675-1173
Insurance Agent Office	732-955-6730
Jim Fischetti Cell No.	917-573-9751
Bulletin	pgkfrank@gmail.com



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Calendar of Events

January

1	Solemnity of Mary	
8	Council Meeting	8pm
15	Officers Planning Meeting	8pm
15	Convention Deposit Due	
25	Bus Trip to Atlantic City	9:45-7:00pm
26	Board of Governors Meeting	8pm
29	Metuchen Diocese Chapter Meeting with State Officers	7:30pm

February

5	Council Meeting	8pm
7	Oldies Dance	6:30-10:30pm
14	Valentines Day	
16	Presidents Day	
19	Officers Planning Meeting	8pm
20	Lenten Fish Dinners	4:30-6:30pm
22	Bowling Tournament	1pm
26	Board of Governors	8pm
27	Lenten Fish Dinners	4:30-6:30pm

Deceased Members for January

	JOHN PALOCZIE	1968
	JOHN EAGAN	1973
H	RICHARD PRYCE	1983
	CHARLES SERAMBA	1987
	ALFRED CAVALLARO	1987
H	PHILIP A. MICELI	1994
	WALTER J. SESNY	1994
	JOSEPH A. WUKOVETS	1994
	SALVATORE C. FORGIONE	1997
	FRANK J. BAUMGARTNER	1999
	GIUSEPPE (TONY) DI MARTINO	2000
H	WILLIAM F. DWYER, PGK / PFN	2000
	JOHN TEVIS	2002
	PETER J. RICOTTA	2002
	ROBERT ABRAMO	2003
	FRANK BUCZYNSKI	2004
	JOHN J COGAN	2005
	JOHN WAVERCZAK	2005
	STEPHEN NAGIEWICZ	2006
	TOM LARDIERE	2006
	JOHN WELTER	2007
	ROBERT NOVAK	2011
	DAVID M ORTMANN	2011
	JOHN R. DE ANGELIS	2012
	WILLIAM T. HIGGINS	2012
	JOHN JAMES MURPHY	2013
	FRANK J. DELMONTE	2015
	MICHAEL FLORIO	2015
	GEORGE R. KIPILA	2015
	RAPHAEL (RALPH) CASSESE	2016
	EDWARD J. BRUTON	2016
	JOHN J (JJ) DE LUCA, PGK/PCCP	2017
	GERALD T. CONNELL	2018
	CARL L. MANAKER JR	2018
	RICHARD D LORDI	2021
	WILLIAM J SELBY, PGK	2022
	ERNEST (ERNIE) BALESTRACCI	2024
	THOMAS J GATTO	2024



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Happy Birthday to

Michael S Potyrala	01/02
Richard F Clark	01/04
Edward J Trackim	01/04
William J Alberts	01/06
Anthony D Fazioli PGK	01/08
Philip F Svoboda PGK	01/09
William C Gibbons	01/10
Arthur J Neves	01/10
Michael W Burkhart	01/11
Henry R Schulz PGK	01/14
Peter M Del Popolo	01/23
George J Adams	01/26
Nicholas J De Palma	01/26
Nicholas A Pross	01/26
Dexter Yager	01/28
Anthony H Pichalski Jr	01/30
Francis J Decibus	01/31
John R Frobose	01/31

Fourth Degree News

Meeting Fourth Tuesday of the Month

Check with Faithful Navigator for Meeting time and place

3' by 5' Flag kits with pole are available for \$15.00

Contact: PFN Phil Svoboda (732)634-5820

Or PFN Mike Choma (732)259-3500

Or FN Ken Egan (908) 720-8073

Membership: The Fourth Degree is open to any Third Degree member in good standing who is a citizen of the United States.

The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship with a love of and loyalty to the Knights' respective countries through active membership in local Fourth Degree groups called "Assemblies". Fourth Degree members must retain their membership as a Third-Degree member in their local council in order to remain in good standing.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Brother Cory Spillar is the Councilman for the Third Ward. Any Brother in the Third Ward should feel free to contact him on community matters at (732)236-4501. Please feel free to pass this information on to any residents who are in the Third Ward.



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Columbian Club Corner

For all my brothers and families who gave me prayers and get well wishes, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. God is good as all your prayers were heard and answered. For all who aren't aware of what happened, I had a quadruple bypass. I have my vice president, Greg Schmitt, taking care of my duties, and he has been updating me in what is going on at the club. I want to thank all my brothers who have stepped up and filled in for me. I will be out for an undetermined amount of time.

God bless you all.

Jimmy Farese

Notice of Motion

A motion will be made and voted on at the January 8, 2026 meeting authorizing an expenditure of up to \$2,000 to host the Metuchen Diocese Chapter meeting with the Bishop and State Officers.

Lenten Fish Dinners

Lenten Fish Dinners are back starting on Friday February 20, 2026 with an all-new side dish menu that varies each week and a salad bar.



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2026 Convention in Wildwood

May 13-17, 2026

Deposit Due January 15, 2026

You can now make your reservations and send a deposit to stay at the Water's Edge Ocean Resort in Wildwood Crest. Like last year, you can book 2, 3, or 4 nights. ***The rates are the same as last year*** as follows:

Friday & Saturday (May 15 & 16)	\$255
Thursday, Friday, & Saturday (May 14, 15 & 16)	\$350
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday (May 13, 14, 15 & 16)	\$432

The above rates include taxes and the Hospitality Room for Friday and Saturday. Rates are for 2 people in a room. Each extra person over 10 years old will be charged \$15 per person per night fee payable directly to the Water's Edge on check-in.

Reservations are now being accepted with deposit to hold a room for you. ***A deposit of \$100 is due not later than January 15, 2026. I need to send a deposit and reservation list to the hotel in early February.*** Final balance is due by April 15, 2026. Make checks payable to "St. Andrews Council 5088" and mail the check to me at 41 Westside Ave – Avenel NJ 07001-1422.

To reserve your room for the weekend, please provide me your name, Mobile (cell) phone number, and Email address. Send this information to my Email address:

pgkfrank@gmail.com or call me at 732-887-5501. I will send you confirmation within 10 days of receiving your information and payments.

This is first come first served with priority given to members of St Andrew's Council.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Wildwood.

Frank Buczynski
732-887-5501



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OLDIES DANCE MUSIC FROM THE 60S, 70S AND 80S

Sponsored by Columbian Club of Avenel
Proceeds donated to St. Andrew's Knights of Columbus

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7TH 2026

6:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M. (doors open at 6:00 PM)



BUFFET DINNER FEATURING
ROAST BEEF, ROAST PORK AND TURKEY
DRAFT BEER & SODA INCLUDED WITH TICKET

COME BE ENTERTAINED BY DJ ZEB

Columbian Club of Avenel – 109 MORRISEY AVE, AVENEL, NJ

TICKETS \$30.00 PER PERSON

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

DEADLINE FOR TICKET SALES IS 2-2-26

PLEASE CONTACT JOE KRAUS (908 472-2862) OR JOE GORNICZ 732-750-2948



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*** * * AC Bus Trip * * ***

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Caesar's

*Sponsored by St. Andrew's Knights of Columbus
109 Morrissey Avenue, Avenel*

Bus leaves Council home at 9:45 a.m. / returns approx. 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40 per person / \$30 back

Continental breakfast at Council

On bus: water, snacks

*** * ***

Call Hank Werte: 732-841-0278
Jesse De Luca: 732-857-7047



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St. Andrews 37th Memorial Mixed Bowling Event

When: Sunday February 22, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM

Majestic Lanes

535 US-9, Perth Amboy NJ 08861

Entry Fee: \$30.00 per bowler
(includes bowling and shoe rental)

**** NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MAY BE BROUGHT INTO THE
BOWLING ALLEY ****

List of Bowlers in order of Line-up

Line up Position	Name of Bowler	Average
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
	Total Average	

	Bowler's Fees @\$30.00 each	\$
	Total Money Enclosed	\$

**All entries, with fee, must be returned by Friday, February 20, 2026 to
Rich Clark 732-496-5318**

Columbian Club of Avenel

**Hall & Catering Available
All Affairs, Events & Occasions**

**No Party Too Big or Too Small
Sit Down Capacity Up to 200 People**

Call us (732)636-9696 Option 1

All foods prepared by House Caterer – Choice of Menus