



NASSAU CHAPTER NEWS



WWW.NASSAUCHAPTERKOF C.ORG

JULY 2008

Chapter President's Message

I would like to open my message with a thank you to all the councils and their Grand Knights who have supported the Chapter this past Columbian year. Besides the council's annual membership dues of \$50.00, the Chapter needs the active support of the councils and our brothers and sisters in Columbianism to provide scholarships, support for vocations, fraternal assistance and donations to charitable ministries. As a 501-C-8 corporation we must distribute most of what we receive. There are limits to what we can retain. Without the support of the Knights of Columbus family in Nassau County we would not be able to continue our mission.

Our June meeting, hosted by Holy Innocents Council, was one of the more exciting and well attended. We had a contested election. In the end, the nominating committee's slate of officers was returned to office. Your officers for the 2008-9 Columbian year are:

President:	James Bellotti, PGK, FDD
Vice President:	Steven Connolly, PGK
Secretary:	James Wall, PGK
Treasurer:	Michael Murtha, PGK

Most of the delegates and chairmen who have been an active part of my team for the past Columbian year are returning. I want to thank the brothers for renewing their commitments to the Chapter. One position that is available is the Traveling Madonna. After many years, Winston Delpesh, PGK, has asked to be replaced. I want to thank Winston for his efforts. Anyone interested in becoming the Traveling Madonna chairman, contact me.

The Chapter's annual Ducks baseball outing on July 5th was a huge success. Not only did the Ducks win the game in the bottom of the ninth; the Grucci fireworks were spectacular. The proceeds of the game will be used to support a seminarian this Columbian year. I would like to recognize brothers Jim Wall, PGK, and Tom Casey, PGK, for co-chairing the event.

Our Chapter meeting on July 11th will be hosted by Our Lady of the Island Council in Massapequa Park. Please note that this is the second Friday of the month and not the usual third.

Vivat Jesu, *Jim Bellotti PGK FDD*

Chapter Publicity

First, a thank you to those of you who are stepping down from your terms as Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators, and District Deputies. You helped make a difference with the Nassau Chapter, and we hope to see you around. Keep in touch!

And a welcome aboard to those of you who are newly-elected Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators, and newly-appointed District Deputies. Between installations and planning for your upcoming year, this is an exciting, feel-good time. As you're making your plans, keep in mind the Chapter is here for you.

We'd like to get to get the word out about all the good works the Nassau Chapter has done, and will do in the year to come. So if you chair a program or event for the Chapter, please send it to me, and I'll put it in. I'd also be happy to put in pictures of Chapter events if space permits.

This also goes for major council events. If you're running a big event, and we have the space, we'll mention it here. Also, feel free add the Chapter to your council's mailing list. We'd like to get the word out to as many brother Knights in Nassau as we can, through e-mail (preferred) or snail-mail. So if you haven't been getting the Chapter News, you may either e-mail to me, or see one of us at the next Chapter meeting. There's a lot going on at the Chapter that can supplement what your councils are doing, so we want to get the word out. And if you get the Nassau Chapter News through e-mail, the pictures will come out in color!

So for now, feel free to send me what's happening, and I'll get the word out. That's all, folks!

Mike Dragonetti

Publicity Chairman/Bulletin Editor
towncrier@mindspring.com
496 Greengrove Avenue
Uniondale, NY, 11553-2131
(516) 481-2578 or (516) 884-7768

(The following was submitted by Dennis O'Connell from Floral Park Council. Thanks, Dennis!)

5 Veterans to be Recognized by County Executive

County Executive Thomas R. Suozzi has announced that five Nassau County veterans will be recognized on August 2, 2008 at the Salute to Veterans Concert at Eisenhower Park. Robert Kohler, Commander of the Vietnam War Veterans Association a resident of North Bellmore; Jean Quinn of Syosset, Commander of the Eugene Smith American Legion Post 175; Lawrence Pinto of North Merrick - an Iwo Jima survivor; World War II Jewish War Veteran Harry Krieger of Syosset; and Vincent Long, a World War II Marine veteran from Hempstead, will receive the "Distinguished Service To Veterans Medal" during a ceremony at the Harry Chapin Theatre at 6:45 PM.

Following the ceremony will be concert featuring the USO Troupe of Metropolitan New York, Randy and the Rainbows, Risky Business and the Charisma Boys.

Hypertension linked to Agent Orange

In a recent release, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academies determined that limited or suggestive evidence exists that exposure to Agent Orange can lead to the development of high blood pressure (hypertension). The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has not yet added hypertension to the list of presumptive conditions or diseases caused by exposure to Agent Orange, but this report from the IOM requires the VA to consider adding hypertension to the list. The American Legion has recommended that in-country Vietnam veterans who develop hypertension file a claim for the disability now.

Local Veteran Mental Health Concerns

At a recent address to the Veterans Health Alliance of Long Island at the Nassau County Mental Health Association, New York State Director of Veterans Affairs James McDonough said that 63% of New England National Guard Iraq/Afghanistan veterans were showing signs of mental distress. Other studies revealed last year indicate the potential for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder may be as high as 30% for veterans with combat experience. Finding it hard to fall asleep, being emotionally "detached" from family and friends, trying to order people around, being inappropriately angry with others, driving too fast, drinking to much alcohol, feeling guilty about buddies who were killed or wounded may be signs of PTSD. Returning veterans should contact the VA Medical Center Northport 631-261-4400

The Veterans Health Alliance of Long Island (516-504-HELP) can also recommend some non-VA not-for-profits that also offer PTSD services.

Avis Wants to Buy from Vets

Avis Budget Group is interested in conducting a matchmaker with a local veteran-owned business to satisfy their GSA contract obligations. A veteran-owned business that might meet the needs of Budget Truck Division maintenance and repair should contact John Narciso, NYS Veterans Business Outreach Center 1-877-875-VETS or veterans@nyssbdc.org.

Heroes

The Patriot Guard Riders (GR) is a motorcycle organization that provides honors at military and veteran funerals, "welcome home" services for our latest veterans and escort missions. Originally created to protect grieving families from protestors who picketed some military funerals, the PGR has become a recognized part of many patriotic events. Locally the PGR has responded to 6 veteran funerals and 19 military support and escort missions since January 1, 2008. PGR has 142,226 members. Interested contact NYPGR@aol.com.

Want to be on a Catholic game show?

Telecare is looking contestants (preferably 2-person teams) to participate in the Catholic game show, Divine Intervention, during the morning, afternoon and some evenings at our studio in Uniondale (across from Kellenberg High School) from **July 09 – 11, 14 – 18, 21**. If you can make one of these dates please e-mail or call:

(516) 538-8704 ext. 155 E-Mail: divineintervention@telecaretv.org