

Philadelphia Chapter – Knights of Columbus
Established 1901



Philadelphia Chapter, together Serving God, Family
And Community

THE JOURNAL

September – October 2017

Philadelphia Chapter Mission Statement

The object is to bring closer in spirit and fact the Councils of the Philadelphia area for the planning of unified action in order to promote the good of the order and uphold rightful civil power in the nation, state and community; and to also form a better understanding of the principles and practices of the Roman Catholic faith. This statement was taken from the Catholic Standard and Times dated Thursday, March 25, 1982.

The Philadelphia Chapter is comprised of the following Councils:

Santa Maria #263	Regina Mundi #4052
San Salvatore #283	Cor Mariae #4100
De Soto #315	St. Jude #4273
Commodore Barry #578	St. Charles Borromeo #4279
Pinzon #904	Our Lady of Lourdes #4546
La Rabida #1191	Regina Coeli #4921
St. Leo's #1294	Rev. John P. McHugh #4935
Fr. Thomas Ryan #5036	San Rafael #7125
Charles Carroll #1364	St. Benedict de Moor #8252
Madonna #3932	Mary Queen of Angels#12384
Immaculata #3933	Pokrova #13561
St. Katherine Drexel #3938	St. Helena's # 15687

Editor's Note: If you have an email address, please share it with me. You'll receive an enhanced copy of the Journal much faster than you would going through the U.S. mail. Several hard copies are returned for inaccurate mailing addresses. It would also allow the Chapter to use the savings to promote our charitable work. If you have internet access, please contact me at donodan3@gmail.com or call on 215-292-2365. You'd be doing both yourself and the Chapter a tremendous service. Thank you.

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Philadelphia Chapter Upcoming Meetings

The meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 Fraternal Year is listed below. Meetings are held on the 4th Friday of the month at Roman Catholic High School unless otherwise indicated.

Meeting Times: Trustees - 7:30 PM / Chapter Business – 8:00 PM

Friday, September 22, 2017	Friday, February 23, 2018
Friday, October 27, 2017	Friday, March 23, 2018
Friday, November 17, 2017	Friday, April 27, 2018
December Trustees Dinner: (TBA)	Friday, May 25, 2018
Friday, January 26, 2018	June 2018, Elections, date and location TBA

*** Please remember to bring a Brother Knight from your Council to a Chapter Meeting!**

Chapter Officers 2017 – 2018

President

Nick Marcantonio
267-315-2096

Vice-President

Dan Donovan
215-292-2365

Immediate Past President

Dan McPeake
267-250-8510

Chaplain

Vacant

Secretary, PP

Pat Corey
215-677-8549

Treasurer

Jack Stanczak
215-483-3181

Warden

Mickey Kelly
267-872-4111

Sentinels

Atiba McCoy
Michael Innamarito

Trustees

Wiley Redding
Jim Smith
Dan Sipps
Hassan Mitchell
Ray Hill

Bob Conrad
Vince McBride
John Carroll
L.T. Johnson
Bob Watson

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President Nick Marcantonio

Brothers,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Our first meeting will be on September 22nd at Roman Catholic. Trustee's meeting begins at 7:30 PM with the Business meeting starting at 8:00 PM. Our Columbus Day Dinner dance will be on Sunday October 1st at Twining Hall from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Our Man of the Year is Monsignor Federico Britto and our Woman of the Year is Dr. Monique Ruberu. We have three men receiving the Past President's Award this year who have given nearly 80 years of service to both the Knights and our Chapter. The honorees are Dan Sipps, L. Thomas Johnson and Hassell Mitchell. For tickets or to place an ad contact Rich Konstance at 215-637-5834.

Vice-President Dan Donovan

Brothers all,

Thank you all for your faith and support in electing me to this office. I'll do my best during the upcoming fraternal year to support our Worthy President, fellow Chapter Officers and Councils in carrying out our annual mission. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our annual activities or if you believe I can assist your Council in any other way. Finally, I'd like to thank my predecessor, L.T. Johnson, FSW, for his willingness to step into an inconvenient situation and handle the associated duties with his usual dignity and class. Looking forward to a successful year. Vivat Jesus!

Chapter Secretary Pat Corey

I thank our many member Councils that paid their per Capita assessment for 2017. I must remind you that I need your list of delegates and officers from your Councils. I ask you all to thank your past officers and to please welcome the new men. You are all invited to the Chapter Meetings as well as supporting DD's. I audited the members attending and we only see approx. 50 percent of delegates. If you or your elected member cannot attend, please send me an email with your ideas or suggestions and we will act on same. My motto for all is "together we can do more for Charity and the missions of the KOC".

THE POWER OF POCKET CHANGE: If we all saved our pocket change at less than .03 cents a day for 365 days and donated same to the Philadelphia Charity fund each year it would amount to \$10.00 PP. Just where does it go: Aid to distressed members, Refund for RSVP Program for all supporting councils, Scholastic Aid for children of members, Council support and funds, Cancer Home for terminally ill, Police and Fire, Approved Supreme Disaster Funds, and many, many more. Remember the compass points to Charity, please help.

CHARITY FUND2017 is still in progress. Many thanks to those who have supported this with your donations. We completed most of the annual donations but, due to less funds coming in, we had to trim some programs.

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If you remember, the Charity funds in the past often raised \$50 K and at times more. Those times are gone. We're now working with \$16K per year. It would be great if we had the support and funds that they had years ago that provided transportation, food and admission monies for 300 children to Woodside Park or when the fund supported the Cancer Home for the Terminally Ill. The Chapter paid to house the 300 nuns while the home recovered from a crisis and had to be rebuilt. We are part of a great organization and only can complete the mission of giving to charity with the support of our Council members. May thanks to Mickey Kelly our chairman for the last two years.

COLUMBUS DAY DINNER: Plans and arrangements are being made for the Columbus Day Dinner at MEI Caterers on October 1, 2017 from 2:00 -6:00 PM. The man Msgr. Britto, from Philadelphia Archdiocese and Monique Rubero, an accomplished OB/GYN and Pro-Life advocate. We will this year recognize three members for the Past Presidents Award: Brothers Dan Sipps, PGK; L. Thomas Johnson, FSW; and Hassell Mitchell, PGD FDD. A brief bio on each of these Past President honorees is posted at the end of the newsletter. All told, their combined years of service to both the Knights and our Chapter in particular totals over 75 years. We ask you to join with us to honor the aforementioned honorees.

Warden Mickey Kelly: Pro Life Report

Upcoming Events:

The numbers from Harrisburg were recently released for the number of abortions in PA. The numbers went down from 2015. However, the efforts and steadfastness of pro-lifers, especially from our brother knights in being present in front of the abortion facilities, must be doubled. All of my brother knights are encouraged to attend a prayer vigil in your area for one hour.

The Fall 40 Days for Life will commence on Wednesday, September 27th and end on Saturday, November 4th. There are vigils at the Planned Parenthood on Comly Rd. and 1144 Locust Street. There will be another vigil at the Philadelphia Women's Center 777 Appletree Street. To sign up for hours, visit 40daysforlife.com.

The annual Walk for Life will be held on Sunday September 24th at Sisters Park, directly in front of the Basilica. Kristan Hawkins of Students for Life of America and Shawn Carney of 40 Days for Life will be the speakers. A holy hour and mass for life, celebrated by Archbishop Chaput, will be held following the rally to coincide with the rally, starting at 530PM.

The 35th annual Stand Up for Life Dinner will be held on Sunday November 19th at Sheraton Hotel Downtown, located across from the Cathedral at 17th and Race, starting at 330PM. This year's speaker is Melissa Ohden. Visit prolifeunion.org to purchase your tix today. Councils are urged to sponsor a table for high school and college students who will be attending.

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Update on Charity Drive for Journal:

As of now, we are sitting at over \$18,000 in charity drive contributions. Thank you to the following Councils for going above and beyond so far: LaRabida, Regina Coeli, Madonna, Fr. McHugh, Cor Maria, St. Jude, and Fr. Ryan. The drive will continue until December 31st. If your Council is interested in contributing to the charity drive, bring a check at the next chapter meeting. Thank you to our brothers who also exemplified the principle of charity of our order

Chapter News

- ❖ The Annual Columbus Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, October 1st. Please hold the date. The Chapter Man and Woman of the Year will be recognized along with the Past President Award recipients for distinguished service to the Chapter. We had a fantastic turnout last year. Please make every effort to be there.
- ❖ Hats off for PGK, FN, PP Thomas Finnegan for his many years of service to the St. John Neumann Assembly and the Philadelphia Chapter. Brother Tom served over 30 years as Comptroller of the assembly. He will be honored at the Christmas Testimonial. Plans are being formed and we ask you all to support this event.
- ❖ And congratulations to St. JOHN NEUMANN ASSEMBLY 2017 who, under the leadership of FN Mike Arment, selected a total of six RSVP seminarians to receive financial support from the KOC. The assembly members voted to provide assistance as a living memorial from the deceased memorial funds. Well done.
- ❖ ST. CHARLES BOROMEO COUNCIL # 4279 will have a “Cow Chip” bingo party on September 9, 2017 at 2:00 PM. The cow will arrive at 3:00 PM. Bingo tickets are \$20.00 with a grand prize of \$5,000.00. Wristbands will be available for \$25.00 that include food, open bar for four hours. A cash bar will also be open and there will be fun and games for all. Children are free. Tickets will be available at the club bar and by calling FS Tom Foltz at 215-824-2522. Remember to mention the Philadelphia Chapter. Event is to promote the mission of St. Charles Borromeo Council and Charity.
- ❖ ST. CHARLES BOROMEO COUNCIL # 4279 will be upgrading the audio and visual effects on the TVs in the club. They will be ready for upcoming football season and will be available for all games and pay per view events. Come out and support this worthy council.
- ❖ Our Lady of Consolation Church (St. Leo’s Council) will be holding a Communion Breakfast on September 10th. Mass at the church will begin at 9:00 AM with the breakfast immediately following at Maggie’s Restaurant, 9242 N. Delaware Avenue. Cost is \$15.00. Please contact either the Rectory, St. Leo’s Council (nickpgk61@yahoo.com) or me (donodan3@gmail.com) if your interested.

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Philadelphia Chapter Councils Offer Affordable Facilities for That Special Event

The Councils listed offer a variety of professional services and accessible location for your special events:

- * **Fr. John McHugh Council # 4935**, 5323 Oxford Avenue, Phila. PA 19124 Phone: 215-535-0849
- special packages for large and small events, catering and self-catering options available
- * **Lady of Lourdes Council # 4546**, 3401-07 Welsh Road, Phila. PA 19136; Phone: 215-331-2577
- large banquet hall available for all types of occasions, catering and full beverages services also available
- * **Regina Coeli # 4921**, 9617 James Street, Phila. PA 19135 Phone: 215-332-2517
- flexible hall for large and small events, catering services and full service bar options available
- * **St. Charles Borromeo Council # 4279**, 1193 Gravel Pike, Bensalem PA 19020; Phone: 215-638-2202; offer ample parking and a variety of food and beverage packages to fit any occasion
- * **St. Katharine Drexel Council # 3968**, 15000 Bustleton Avenue, Phila. PA 19116;
Phone: 215-969-4470; banquet hall available for shower, birthdays and other events, catering and beverage services available
- * **Twining Hall (M.E.I. Caterers)** 4900 East Street Road, Treose PA Phone: 215-364-2130
- Knight owned business, available for large and small events, several catering and beverage packages available

Please support our local Councils and remember to mention you're a Knights of Columbus member when you call.

If I missed you Council, please email me your information and I'll include it in next publication.

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❖ Please submit all Journal Articles by 1st week of the month, published Bi-Monthly

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL'S UNITED FOR CHARITY

Background Information on the Three Past President Honorees

L.T. Johnson

L. Thomas Johnson, Sr. Was born in Philadelphia, Pa. and is a product of the Philadelphia School System. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon completion of eight years of service, he was honorably discharged. He attended the Naval schools for Aviation Technology and became a member of The 211d Marine Air Wing. He received The Good Conduct Medal and The Presidential Unit Citation. While on the military base he took college courses supplied by The University of North Carolina. Later, he attended The Community College of Philadelphia and The Philadelphia Technical-School.

In 1982 he became a member of St. Jude Council # 4273, going through the committees and chairs eventually reaching the office of Grand Knight, which he held for eight terms and is helping whoever holds that office. He was also the 4th degree club president in which he received an outstanding achievement award for recruiting the most members in 1987. In 2004 he became State Warden. He has proven to be a very dedicated leader of our Caucus. He has performed all of his official duties with unswerving integrity. As you are all aware, he has greatly exceeded the normal requirements of his office and has devoted time to our Order before his personal life and pleasure.

Thom has been cited with many awards and accomplishments:

Certificates of Merit: recognition award, Pennsylvania State Council, VIP club, Family of the Month and Year, Freedoms Foundation Mass and crunch Chairman, a delegate to the Philadelphia Chapter and Voting Delegate to the State Convention. Thom's talents have been recognized by the leadership of the State Council He became District Deputy for two years under State Deputy Bob Cherenyack, a two year term as the area membership chairman under State Deputy Jeff Schutz and as retention chairman for State Deputy Ron Cabbage. In his tenure as District Deputy he was the Vice-Chairman of the Delaware Valley Board of District Deputies. He was a District Deputy for a total of five years. Thom is a Past Faithful Navigator of the Archbishop Ryan Assembly and served as the Commander of the Ryan Assembly Color Corps. He was also a delegate to the Supreme Convention.

Thom was employed with the Federal Government for over 35 years until his retirement in 1992. He received numerous awards and commendations. Outstanding service from the Postmaster General, Letter Carrier of the year and others. He was promoter for the Combined Federal Campaign. He was a member and promoter of the Sacred Heart League of Post Office. He received commendations for outstanding work and service as The Shop Stewart for 16 years.

Thom also holds membership in The Charles Young American Legion Post #682, The Marine Corps League and The Philadelphia Chapter of The Tuskegee Airmen.

In addition to everything else, he is also active with his Parish and Community. Within his parish, he serves on various committees and is a member of the Men's Association, Liturgy Committee, Pastoral Council, an usher and an Eucharistic Minister. In the Community, he is the Treasurer of the Block Club.

Thom was asked, "How can you serve all of these organization"? His response, "WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE".

Background Information on the Three Past President Honorees

Dan Sipps

Dan joined the order at Fr. Mc Hugh Council # 4935 28 years ago. He was a three term Grand Knight and served in the many chairs of the Council. Dan joined the Chapter over 24 yrs. ago and served as Memorial Chairman, Trustee and on the Board of Directors until this current day. He is currently on the Admission Committee of the Council, Past President of the Home Association for the Council and is still active today. He is married to his lovely wife Gerry and lives in Philadelphia.

Hassell Mitchell

Born and raised in Ruffin, North Carolina, Hassell Mitchell attended Organ Hill Elementary School and graduated from Booker T. Washington High in 1958. Hassell joined the Army in August 1958 a paratrooper of 82nd Airborn Division. He was also a test jumper, testing new parachutes. In 1961 he was discharged from the Army and became an Airman in the 913th Division at Willow Grove Air Force Base. He was also employed and trained as a crew member on the C119 Aircraft with the 326th Military Airlift Command.

The 326 Unit moved to Dover Air Force Base and Hassell transferred to Dover and became a crew member on the C141 Aircraft. He served as a crew member on trips to Viet Nam. Mitchell left employment from the Air force in 1970 to become a Policeman for The Philadelphia Police. In 1991 he retired from Air Force and the Police. He became a driver license Examiner and later a Police Radio Operator. He retired in 2001. Every move he made, his wife Shirley was by his side. Total time in military, over 30 years.

Sam Brown and James E. Smith recruited me for the Knights of Columbus 2003. In 2004 I was promoted to Deputy Grand Knight. In 2006 to Grand Knight and a District Deputy in 2008, for 2 years. At the Present I am the Awards Chairman Cardinal Dougherty Assembly. The graduation for the ROTC Navy and the Air Force, I attend and give an award to the outstanding cadet of the class at Villanova and St Joseph University.

The Knights have become a big part of my family. God bless AMERICA.
