



## KNIGHTLY NEWS

A Quarterly Digest

September 2019

Ridgewood Knights of Columbus, Council 1736

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# A Rockin' Block Party



More than 600 hot dogs and hamburgers were served. Over 1,000 ice cream cups were consumed. The number of times Fr. Ron and Deacon Bob were soaked in the dunk tank? *Countless.*

Hosted by Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, the annual parish community celebration was held Sunday, Sept. 15. Coordinated by the KOC, brothers helped set up, managed stations (food, cotton candy, popcorn, dunk tank, etc.), donated drinks, and cleaned up afterward.

“The Moms Group, the Spanish ministry, religious education, and the Ridgewood Seniors all pitched in,” says event organizer Jeff Voigt. “A true team effort by the Mt. Carmel parishioners!” [See photos from this year's event here.](#)

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# Community Outreach Has Begun

by **Grand Knight Ramon Hache** September 2019

It's hard to believe we are already two months into the 2019-2020 Fraternal Year. Ridgewood Council #1736 is marching ahead with its renewed commitment to charity and service to the Church, our parish, and our local community.



At a time when our Church is facing its most difficult crisis in more than 500 years, our Council is focusing on recruitment and engagement with the community through community outreach and programs. We will be hosting the first of a series of free seminars open to the public, all organized by Brother Knight Jeff Voigt. The first is [An Evening of Financial and Estate Planning](#) on September 26 (7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.). The discussion will be led by Brother Knights Chris Weigl and Steve Callahan, with expertise in estate planning and insurance respectively.

We began expanding our community outreach by [hosting a barbecue for the OLMC Youth Ministry](#) on September 4th. We have expanded our support of local organizations like Life Opportunities Unlimited and continue to support legacy organizations such as Good Counsel Homes. PGK Bob Reilly recently led a group of men on a visit to their Yonkers location to install new flooring.

Additionally, we are also improving the way we communicate within the Council and with the public. Brother Knight Jason Fell has been leading this effort. [Our website was recently updated](#) and a [Google Business Listing account](#) was created to help with our hall rentals. We have also begun rolling out the use of the Kohort phone app to help with communication and information sharing within the Council.

The next step will be to increase public awareness of the good works of the order. I hope you are as proud and excited as I am of where our Council has been, is today, and the future ahead.

We invite you to the Installation of Officers Ceremony at OLMC on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 6:30 PM. ¾ I ¼

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## Member Spotlight: Anthony Tokarz

A Second Degree Knight, 21-year-old Anthony Tokarz transferred to Ridgewood Council #1736 in April from #10563 Seton Hall University.

**Are you excited about joining our Council?**

Very much so. It's closer to my home now that I've graduated. Also, I'm involved with OLMC through the Neocatechumenal Way. I love that the Knights add a tangible element of fraternal brotherhood to my life.

**Do you do volunteer/do charity work outside the Knights?**

I am a month into a year (or potentially more) of missionary work in Minnesota and the Dakotas. The ministry involves the Hispanic community in Minnesota, as well as Karenni refugees from Burma and Thailand in St Paul.



Specifically, I'm on an itinerant catechist team that conducts catecheses as part of the New Evangelization, i.e. re-evangelizing perfunctory Catholics and lapsed Catholics. Also, announcing the Kerygma to priests—Pope St. John Paul the Great himself said he wished someone would announce to him, every day, that Christ loves him. This is through the Neocatechumenal Way.

**Wow, that's impressive. What are you looking forward to accomplishing at our Council?** Working with youth and disabled people who have let the world hide the meaning of their lives and suffering from them.

**To you, what does it mean to be a Knight?** To support my parish, enter into communion with brothers of the faith, and defend the faith in our society by my witness to Christ's involvement in my life. Also, to heed Christ's command to be the salt in all my personal and professional interactions.

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Every Council can do a better job recruiting and retaining members—Council #1736 included. Supreme realizes this and to supply individual Councils with the tools they need to succeed, it has developed leadership training webcasts that are free to any Knights member.

Want to learn more about topics like effective council operation, membership recruitment and conducting charitable outreach programs? Developed by staff from Supreme's Fraternal Mission Department, the webcasts aim to discuss strategies for engaging council members and building a stronger council.

A full schedule of upcoming webcasts [can be found here](#). Topics include *Faith in Action Programs Attract and Retain*, *Turning Your Clergy into Your Best Recruiters*, and more.

Can't make a live presentation? Register anyway. Each webcast is recorded and archived so that fraternal leaders can participate at a time that's convenient.

Click here to access [the full library of on-demand webcasts](#), including discussions about training Council offers, connecting the Knights mission to the parish, and much more.

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# Peace of Mind, Security, Freedom from Anxiety, a Safeguard from the Unknown

*A Message from Your KofC Insurance Agent*

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. Here's something to consider: A recent survey from LIMRA (Life Insurance Marketing Research Association) found that only 59 percent of Americans own life insurance and about half of those are underinsured.



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

In other words, about 70 percent of the population either has no life insurance or has too little life insurance.

Our founder, Fr. McGivney, lived the social and the financial *insecurity* of a desperate family with the breadwinner suddenly taken that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and provide for his mother and siblings. He didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing the Knights. Everyone who joined in those first years was insured; that was part and parcel of being in the organization. Today, insurance coverage through the Order is voluntary.

Every member has available to him and his family a licensed and trained insurance professional to help guide you toward an educated decision regarding your needs. We can help any family, at any age, determine if they have blind spots in their coverage. It can help you avoid the pain of being underinsured. With a variety of life insurance products we offer, we can help just about any person within any budget.

I don't know about you, but I don't want to buy life insurance...I want to buy what life insurance provides: no change in lifestyle for the survivors...in the house where they want to be. It'll pay for a daughter's wedding, a child's college education and much more.

What does life insurance provide? Peace of mind, security, freedom from anxiety, a safeguard from the unknown.

That's where I can help.

*Steve Callahan*

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## Upcoming Degree Dates

### **FIRST DEGREE (now called Admission Degree)**

October 8: St. Thomas More, Council 2188, Westwood

October 21: Queen of Peace, Council 3428, North Arlington

November 12: St. Thomas More, Council 2188, Westwood

November 18: Queen of Peace, Council 3428, North Arlington

December 10: St. Thomas More, Council 2188, Westwood

### **SECOND DEGREE (now called Formation Degree)**

October 9: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Council 3644, Wallington

December 5: St. Therese of Lisieux, Council 7647, Cresskill

### **THIRD DEGREE (now called Knighthood Degree)**

October 25: Queen of Peace, Council 3428, North Arlington

[For times and contacts, visit the Bergen Federation website.](#)

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## Get Involved!

Upcoming events with the Knights, OLMC, and more.

- **Thursdays:** *Knights Socials*. Beer. Sports. Fraternity. Need we say more? See you at the Hall. 7:30 p.m.
- **September 26:** [Getting Your Ducks in a Row Before You Leave This Earth](#). Join us for a free seminar to ensure you've identified and addressed important financial issues to you and your family. Beer and pizza after. All are welcome! Starts at 7:30 p.m.
- **October 26:** [Ridgewood Comedy Night](#). Clean comedy featuring two nationally headlining comedians along with our own PGK Joe Antonacci. Tickets are \$20. Knights Hall. Doors at 8 p.m. CASH BAR.

