9 Fraternal Activities

9.1 Blood Bank

A few years ago the blood centers of New Jersey announced that the practice of banking blood “Credits” in accounts would no longer be used. This change was in response to many hospitals deciding to eliminate their blood replacement fees. Hospitals may still ask that you or your family members replenish blood supplies, but they still will not charge you if you cannot. Due to the fact that blood must be used within 42 days, the hospitals and the blood centers have taken the stand that it is a community responsibility to provide blood for those who need it, when they need it.

You and your family can receive an unlimited supply of blood replacement if it is needed. This can only come about if we all participate in blood drives. Donor groups provide 90% of all the blood distributed by the blood centers to area hospitals every year. The New Jersey State Council encourages all local councils to have at least one or more drives each year.

Listed below are the blood centers working with the State Council:

The Blood Center of New Jersey
South Grove Street
East Orange, NJ, 07018
973-676-4700

Central Jersey Blood Centers
494 Sycamore Ave.
Shrewsbury, NJ, 07701
908-842-5750

Community Blood Council of New Jersey
1410 Parkside Ave.
Trenton, NJ, 08638
609-883-9750
These Blood Centers will assist you in setting up your blood donor day. Appoint a Blood Bank Contact. Set the donor date two or three months in advance. However your council blood bank Contact can call the blood center, and they will send you promotional material along with the confirmation of the Blood Donor Day date. Detailed instructions will be given to you along with suggestions that will help you to insure a successful drive.

If your membership is too small for an individual donor day, join a nearby council in a joint venture. Maybe a Chapter or Federation drive could be considered using a central location.

Hospitals will normally charge an administration fee when blood has been administered to a patient. However, should the hospital charge you for the blood or ask that the blood be replaced, you can contact one of the blood centers in your area and they will assist you in resolving this matter.

State Chairman:

Dr. Andrew Savicky, Ph.D., FDD
312 Princeton Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028
856-863-8424
psychservltd@aol.com
9.2 Employment Referral

The number of unemployed brothers is unfortunately growing throughout the state. There are many reasons for this: company closings, company relocations, down sizing, right sizing, employment re-engineering, or economic conditions. New Jersey which was a major manufacturing state has become a service-oriented economy which doesn’t need a skilled, educated labor force. The Employment Referral Service was started to provide help to our brother knights in their time of need. That is where you come into play.

The state office mails a list of brothers seeking employment monthly. All Grand Knights are requested to publish the list in their monthly council newsletters. Hopefully, brothers who are employed, or are an employer will review this list of brother knights who need help. Additionally, please appoint a council employment contact to assist brothers in obtaining employment.

Please have any brother who is unemployed or seeking a job change contact the State Chairman with a BRIEF description of his qualifications and experience. Council number MUST be included.

Advertisements of position openings are also sought from you. In this way brothers who may see a match or wish to apply for a job opening in your company can do so.

Also, brothers who have a skill and wish to let us known that this skill is available for hire can list their qualifications in this referral service bulletin.

THE ONLY WAY THIS PROGRAM WILL SUCCEED IS IF YOU INCLUDE A COPY OF THE LIST IN ITS ENTIRETY IN YOUR COUNCIL'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AND YOU CARE ENOUGH TO TAKE ACTION TO HELP BROTHERS IN NEED.

State Chairman:
John F. O’Brien, PGK
82 Sunrise Drive
Gillette NJ 07933
908-647-6484 kofcSummit783@aol.com
9.3 Organ Donor Awareness

Organ and tissue transplants save thousands of lives each year, but many people do not receive the transplants they desperately need because there are simply not enough donors. Nearly 100,000 people nationally and more than 3,500 in New Jersey are on waiting lists for transplants, yet thousands of patients die each year while waiting for the “miracle of life”.

I was one of those people on the waiting list for a kidney transplant for over four years until I received a call that a perfect match had been found for me and I had life-saving transplant surgery in December 2002. Now, more than 4 years after surgery, I no longer need dialysis three times a week for up to five hours per day; I am much healthier in every respect and ready to continue living life to the fullest.

This State Council program is designed to promote awareness among members of the Knights of Columbus and the general public as to the importance of organ, tissue and bone marrow donation to help others in need. Most people in America favor organ donation, but many have not signed donor cards and have not discussed donation with their families. Many people do not properly declare their wishes to be a donor. A resolution adopted at the State Convention in May 2004, urging the Supreme Council to adopt this program internationally, was presented for consideration at the Supreme Convention that year, but, unfortunately, has not been adopted.

One individual donor can provide organs, bone and tissue for some 75 people in need. This includes liver, heart and heart valves, cornea, lungs, tendons, veins, skin, ligaments, kidneys and pancreas. Transplantation is now a routine medical procedure that can dramatically improve – and save – the lives of those with vital organ failure or suffering from other defects.

Where does the Roman Catholic Church stand on transplant? His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, referred to organ donation as “An Act of Love”. Catholics view organ donation as an act of charity and fraternal love. Transplants are morally and ethically acceptable to the Vatican. Pope Benedict XVI also has spoken in favor of organ donation.

In an effort to increase donations, the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network has established an organ and tissue donor registry which gathers statistical information to assist in its educational outreach and manages a computer database to be used to match donors and potential recipients.
The Knights of Columbus State Council’s goal is to heighten public awareness and reach as many people as possible to make the compassionate decision to be an organ, tissue or bone marrow donor and to have their friends and members of their family become donors as well.

Here are some suggestions on how the program can be implemented at the council level:

- The Grand Knight should appoint an active council member to serve as local chairman. The chairman may request information pamphlets, donor cards and other handouts from the State Council Chairman.
- Please keep in mind that this program is not just for knights; it is a community service program coordinated by the local council. It can become an asset to the parishes served by the council and can be part of a community health fair.
- This program could be combined with a blood drive, Eyes for the Needy program or similar service project.

For further information please contact the State Chairman at the address below.

**State Chairman:**  
Carl T. Buscher, FDD, 9021 (Ann)  
110 Mills Avenue  
Norwood, NJ 07648  
201-768-8339  
CarlPGK@optonline.net.
9.4 Deborah Hospital

Deborah Heart and Lung Center was established in 1922 as a tuberculosis sanitarium and pulmonary center. Legend has it that Deborah’s rural Burlington County location was the key to recovery because of its therapeutic Jersey pine barren air. In reality, thousands of TB patients were medically treated and successfully cured by Deborah physicians.

With the development of antibiotic medications, which eradicated TB, Deborah began expanding its focus to other chest diseases. In 1958, Dr. Charles Bailey, a pioneer in heart surgery, performed the first open heart at Deborah. The specialty of cardiac diseases was immediately embraced and Deborah evolved in the only Cardiac and Pulmonary specialty hospital in New Jersey.

Today, Deborah offers the latest surgical techniques and non-surgical alternatives for diagnosing and treating all forms of cardiac, vascular and pulmonary diseases in adults, and congenital and acquired heart defects in neonates and children.

The Deborah campus consists of Deborah Heart and Lung Center, a 161 bed hospital with a full service ambulatory care center and the Deborah Hospital Foundation, the fundraising arm of the Center with approximately 68,000 volunteers supporting the Deborah mission.

In 2001, Deborah was awarded accreditation by the Joint Commission of the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), effective for three years, which is the longest period of accreditation awarded. Since JACHOs inception, Deborah has always received the maximum time allowed before an institution must be re-accredited.

This center is known worldwide for its special programs in the treatment of heart and lung diseases. Deborah provides the treatment at no charge to patients, except for those items that are covered by the patient’s insurance.

Local Councils, Assemblies, and Chapters are encouraged to plan special activities and dedicate the income from activities to the financial support of Deborah.

Knights and members of their families in need of services at the Deborah Hospital have always received consideration when applying for admission. Contact the State Contact for information.
Your Council, Assembly, or Chapter, determines the events scheduled for this great cause.

Make checks payable to Deborah Hospital and mail them to the State Contact, along with a transmittal report on the Council, Assembly, or Chapter letterhead, if available.
For complete details

On the services offered

And the level of care

Visit

DEBORAH

on the

World Wide Web

at

www.deborah.org

State Chairman: Andrew J. Julia, Jr., DD, 7774
37 HALL STREET
P.O. BOX 141
Winslow, NJ 08095
609-567-1187
ajuliajr44@yahoo.com
9.5 Veterans Assistance Program

*Help and Bring Cheer to Veterans at Hospitals*

New Jersey State Council Veterans/Serviceman Program is designed to try to bring happiness to persons who have served our country in the Armed Forces and who are less fortunate than us.

The program lends a helping hand and brings cheer to those persons who are located at the New Jersey State Home for Disabled Veterans (Menlo Park), Lyons V. A. Medical Center and East Orange V. A. Medical Center and the New Jersey State Home for Disabled Veterans (Vineland).

There is a strong nucleus of dedicated brothers and fourth Degree Assemblies who are carrying out this program, but more help is needed. Anyone interested in helping should contact the facility coordinators or the New Jersey State Council office for information on how they can help.

The programs are all designed for the special interest of the participants. The most important is the wheelchair brigade who pushes the incapacitated to mass and the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Bingo parties are held providing prizes and refreshments. During Christmas and at the patient’s annual carnival, candy and other small gifts are provided.

The program is funded from the generous donations from Brother Knights in New Jersey. The program is an annual appeal from the State Office and all funds go directly to those who served us well and have kept our country free for us all to live in the peace and love of Christ.

State Contacts:

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<th>North</th>
<th>South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDWARD SHELLMAN, DD</strong></td>
<td><strong>CARMINE J. AMICO, FDD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 Lawrence Drive</td>
<td>1607 Wisteria Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hackettstown, NJ 07840</td>
<td>Vineland, NJ 08361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>908-850-0536</td>
<td>908-691-6973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:e.shellman@verizon.net">e.shellman@verizon.net</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:carmineamico@msn.com">carmineamico@msn.com</a></td>
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9.6 Leadership Training Program

The New Jersey State Council Leadership Training Program will offer a series of interactive seminars around the State to provide participants training in basic leadership skills particularly as they apply to volunteers. The purpose of the seminars is to stimulate participants to:

- Achieve full leadership potential
- Improve communication
- Improve council performance
- Achieve greater family participation
- Encourage more active involvement in church and community

Each seminar will address the following topics:

- Principles and functions of leadership
- Organizational skills
- Planning
- Public speaking
- Motivation
- Problem solving
- How to run a meeting
- K of C protocol

The seminars are open to all Knights but we are particularly targeting current and incoming council officers. Councils are encouraged to send as many members as they would like. There will be no cost to the council. The seminars will be presented on Saturday mornings at various locations across the State.

We are asking your help in encouraging potential council leaders to attend this program. As you are well aware, we are seeing much faster turnover in council leadership. Men are moved into chair positions often with limited experience in the Knights and often with limited experience as leaders. We believe that participants in this program will receive the tools they will need to be successful leaders in our order, in their councils and in their other professional and personal endeavors.

State Chairman:

Current State Warden
9.7 **NJ Division of Motor Vehicles Knights of Columbus License Plates**

Knights of Columbus License Plates are available to all Brother Knights. If you wish to apply for K of C License Plates, please comply with the following instructions:

1. Call the State License Plate Contact and obtain New Jersey Organization Special Plate Application. Please complete the application fully including: 11.7 K of C License Plates
2. Answer all the questions under “Instructions”
3. Complete the mailing stub on the reverse side
4. DO NOT fill out the “Certification by Organization Special Plate Liaison”. The State Chairman will fill out that section.

Items to be mailed:

1. The application.
2. A photocopy of your vehicle registration.
3. A photo copy of your current Travel Card.
4. A check for $25.00 made payable to: “N. J. Motor Vehicle Dept.”.
5. You should receive your plates about two weeks after your application is received.

Mail all of the above to the State Chairman:

John Placentra, FDD
570 Cherry Avenue
Franklinville, NJ 08322
856-629-6310

**Personalized Columbian “Vanity” Plates**

Plates are also available with up to five letter/number combinations. There is an additional $50.00 fee and you must **first** apply for and be issued an original K of C plate. Please call the State Chairman with any questions or to request an application for personalized plates and instructions. Plates are also available for leased vehicles.