

# THE COUNCIL COMPASS

Volume 40 Issue 1

MIDDLESEX COUNCIL #857

January / February 2009

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

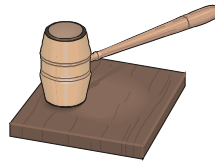
Dear Brother Knights,

I would first like to wish you and your families a very healthy and prosperous new year. The month of December was a very busy time for our council. Bob Banasiak ran a very successful blood drive; maybe his best ever. John Brower, Jim Sullivan, Jack Keenan and myself set up for the manger lighting, during which a great time was had by our members and the Altar Rosary Society. During this month, we also hosted our Advent Breakfast and both the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree Christmas parties. The food was delicious and the atmosphere was in the true holiday spirit.

With our close ties to St. James church, we again donated a truckload of food for Christmas. Also keeping with tradition, we sponsored a less fortunate family for Christmas. With our normal budget we were able to purchase bicycles, a scooter and clothes.

In closing, I am off to the mid-term Grand Knight seminar, from which I hope to bring back to our council some new ideas and thoughts to be used in the remainder of my term. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Fraternally Yours,  
Michael Choma  
Grand Knight #857



## MIDDLESEX COUNCIL No. 857 OFFICERS FOR 2008 – 2009

Chaplain	Rev. Charles Cicerale	
Grand Knight	Michael Choma	259-3500
GK email	maleman73@comcast.net	
Deputy GK	Frank Sokloski	574-3354
Chancellor	John Brower	634-1868
Financial Sec.	Bob Banasiak PGK	826-2947
Recorder	Joe Geis PGK	541-2030
Treasurer	Frank Zilai PGK	548-8622
Advocate	Hector Ruiz	644-9795
Warden	Jim Sullivan	423-3020
Lecturer	Jack Keenan PGK	636-2882
Inside Guard	Don Wyzykowski	549-0211
Outside Guard	Robert Golden	908-930-1017

3-Year Trustee	Matthew Hill PGK	201-243-6673
2-Year Trustee	Joe Gregus PGK	855-0281
1-Year Trustee	Gerry Stamato PGK	750-8715

Program Director	Frank Sokloski	
Council Chairman	Joe Geis PGK	
Membership Chairman	Bob Golden PGK	
Youth Chairman	Ed Lenart PGK	
Family Chairman	Gerry Stamato PGK	
Church Chairman	Bob Sabo PGK	
Vocation Chairman	John Hunt PGK	
Community Chairman	Jim Sullivan	
Sick Chairman	Ed Lenart PGK	
Right-to-Life Chairman	Position Available	

Knights of Columbus Telephone 634-9783

Hall Chairman	Ed Lenart PGK	382-0824
Bar Chairman	Jack Keenan PGK	636-2882

## Knights of the Month for January

The Knight of the Month honor for January will be shared by two men who have by themselves ran successful fundraisers for our council; Bob Golden for his mattress sale and Frank Sokloski for his pie sale. My thanks go out to both of these hardworking men.

Also, special thanks goes to Pinho's Bakery for their help with the pie sales.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!!!****January Birthdays****February Birthdays****Columbian Club Report**

With all of the affairs that went on during the last month of 2008 the first two months of 2009 are going to be just as fun-filled. With the playoff games on January 18<sup>th</sup> and the Superbowl on February 1<sup>st</sup> we should all enjoy the last of our football season together. Come down to see the new bar and join in the festivities. Don't forget about Fat Saturday on February 21<sup>st</sup> hosted by Jim Sullivan.

Our Christmas raffle went well, with Joe Zega winning 1<sup>st</sup> prize at 180 points, and Nick Calamino winning 2<sup>nd</sup> prize at 60 points. Thanks to all who participated! Keep an eye out for a special mailing with our *Pot O' Gold* tickets for St. Patrick's Day.

Now that winter is here, I am turning my goals to the projects we have to get completed inside our home. We are in need of a "few good men" to assist Joe Geis with some patch and paintwork.

Fraternally,

Michael Choma  
Columbian Club President  
2008-2009

**Degree Updates**

Degrees are offered throughout the Columbian year. If you are a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> degree member and want to continue your journey to knighthood, please contact Bob Golden PGK at 732-596-2115 or [robertgolden@topproducer.com](mailto:robertgolden@topproducer.com).

<p align="center"><b><u>BAR HOURS</u></b></p> <p>Mon. to Thurs. 4:00 to 11:00 PM          Friday 4:00 PM to 12:00 AM          Saturday 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM          Sunday 12 noon to 11:00 PM</p> <p align="center"><b><u>All guests must sign in.</u></b></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>EDITOR’S NOTES:</u></b></p> <p>The <b>Council Compass</b> is published monthly, except August. Any member wishing to submit an article or notice for publication may e-mail it to Matthew Hill, the newsletter editor, at <a href="mailto:mjhill1@mac.com">mjhill1@mac.com</a> no later than 10 days before the publication date. All inclusions are subject to approval by the Grand Knight.</p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Food Pantry</u></b></p> <p>It would be greatly appreciated if everyone coming to the hall for a meeting, or just to watch sports, would bring with them one or two canned goods for a donation to the Food Pantry. If you forget to bring the canned item, don’t forget the collection jug behind the bar!</p> <p>Your support for the food drive is greatly appreciated by Father Cicerale and the Saint James Food Pantry.</p> <p>Joe Gregus, PGK</p>
<p align="center"><b>NEED A RIDE?</b></p> <p>If any member needs a ride to a meeting or one of our affairs, please call one of the officers listed on page 1.</p> <p>We will make every effort to accommodate your needs.</p>	<p align="center"> <b>Beverly Hunt</b>  <b>Pat Keenan</b>  <b>Pate Egan</b>  <b>Gerry Stamato</b>  <b>George Montalvo</b>  <b>Lucille McCann</b>  <b>Bill Gerity</b>  <b>Betty Sullivan</b>  <b>Joan Tarantino</b>  <b>Mickey Mangenaro</b>  <b>Joe Nagy</b>  <b>Cliff Meros</b>  <b>Hector Ruiz</b>  <b>Linda Rosetti</b>  <b>All soldiers abroad</b>  <b>Martin Dolly *deceased</b>  <b>Charlie Farr *deceased</b> </p> <p align="center"> <b>Our thoughts and prayers go out to aforementioned and their families</b> </p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Rinky Dink Winners:</u></b></p> <p align="center"> <b>Jack Keenan – 12 points</b>  <b>John Brower – 13 Points</b> </p> <p align="center"><b><u>Attendance Pool Winners:</u></b></p> <p align="center"> <b>Dan Osbourne</b>  <b>35 Points – Not Present</b>  <b>Nick D’Aprile</b>  <b>40 Points –Present</b> </p>
<p align="center"><b><u>BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS</u></b></p> <p>On Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> a very successful blood drive was held in our council with a total of 33 donors. 22 whole blood, 4 double blood and 5 platelet donations were accepted with 4 deferrals. Great job to all who participated!</p> <p>Thanks to our fellow members for rolling up your sleeves: Ken Wahl, Sean Keaveney, Bill Matteusczyk, Paul Tormambe, Robert Golden, John Hunt, Joseph Travostino &amp; John Brower.</p> <p align="right">Sincerely,          Robert G. Banasiak,          Chairman</p>		

## **Announcements**

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### **SEMINARIAN SPONSORSHIP**

Our council will be sponsoring seminarian Marcin Busek, who will be ordained a deacon in May 2009 and a priest in May 2011. He may be reached at:  
Immaculate Conception Seminary, 400 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079

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### **ADVENT BREAKFAST**

On Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> we held our Advent Breakfast at the council and the turnout was very good. We made a profit of \$175.00.  
Thanks go out to Ed McSherry, John Brower, Mike Choma, Bob & Jules Sabo, Jim Jones and Gerry Stamato. A special thanks goes out to our "Head Chef" and "Tradition Toaster" Fran Bobal. Without you gentlemen, things wouldn't have gone so smoothly.  
Remember "The more hands, the easier the task."

Thank-you,  
Robert G. Banasiak

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### **DUES**

Dues have been coming in at a brisk pace for 2009. However there are still approximately 20 members who haven't paid their 2008 dues.  
If 2009 dues are not paid by the end of January, a second notice will be sent out during early February. Please get your dues in ASAP, it keeps our council running smoothly. Any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,  
Robert Banasiak  
Financial Secretary

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### **ST. JAMES 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COUNCIL PHOTO**

Our council photo shoot for the St. James 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary directory will take place at the council hall on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 PM. Officers should be in formal dress; members may be semi-formal. Please attend if you can.

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**FAT SATURDAY**

Jambalya & Jazz

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fat Saturday Mardi Gras Party will be held Saturday, February 21, 2009 at 7:00 PM.  
Admission is \$10.

Please join us for New Orleans style food, music, and drink!

For information call: 732-423-3020

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**SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

Please join us in the bar on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, for our annual Superbowl party.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY DINNER**

Our annual Ash Wednesday fish dinner will be held Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, in the council hall.

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**COUNCIL #857  
COMING EVENTS**

**January**

6	Social Meeting	8:00 PM
13	Officer's Meeting	8:00 PM
16	Chapter 4 Meeting	8:00 PM
20	Business / Columbian Club Meeting	8:00 PM

**February**

1	Superbowl Sunday Party	6:00 PM
3	Social Meeting	8:00 PM
10	Officer's Meeting	8:00 PM
17	Business / Columbian Club Meeting	8:00 PM
20	Chapter 4 Meeting	8:00 PM
21	Fat Saturday	7:00 PM
25	Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner	4:30 PM

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!**

Council #857 is in the process of updating our database. Obviously, we have your address because if we didn't you wouldn't be reading this, but in order to improve communication with the membership regarding degrees, events, etc., we find our mailing list is not as efficient or effective as we would like it to be. Please fill out the questionnaire below so we can update our files and fulfill our promise to keep you as updated as possible. You can mail this form back to the council home: 130 Main St., Woodbridge, NJ 07095, or call membership director PGK Bob Golden at 732-596-2115 or e-mail [robertgolden@topproducer.com](mailto:robertgolden@topproducer.com).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_


PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU? (CIRCLE ONE)    1<sup>ST</sup> DEGREE    2<sup>ND</sup> DEGREE    3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE    4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

**SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS WHO SUPPORT US**

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<p><b>Costello-Greiner Funeral Home</b>                  44 Green Street                  Woodbridge, NJ 07095                  732-634-0264                   Patrick J. Costello, Manager                  N.J. Lic. No. 3871</p>	<p><b>LA PENTA OIL</b>                  Burners Installed and Serviced                  Oil Distributor                  Tank Protection Program                  255 Grove Street                  Woodbridge, NJ 07095                  732-634-0888</p>	<p><b>NEVES JEWELERS</b>                  NEW JERSEY'S DIAMOND CENTER                  DIRECT IMPORTERS                  Designers Manufacturers Fine Jewelry Watches                  LEE NEVES                  PRESIDENT                  1-800-479-1086                   Shrewsbury Woodbridge Aberdeen                  732-741-7757 732-634-1086 732-583-2000</p>
 <p><b>D'Aprile Family Caterers</b>                  115 WOODBRIDGE AVE., SEWAREN, NJ 07077</p>	<p><b>Frank Sokloski</b> 1001 Roosevelt Ave                  Carteret NJ 07008                  Warehouse 732-969-1000                  Cell 732-713-9044 Fax 732-969-9989                  danawarehouse@comcast.net</p> <p><b>DANA ENTERPRISES</b>                  Grocery, Clothing, General Merchandise                  Wholesale, Salvage and Closeouts</p>	<p><b>LEON J. GERITY FUNERAL HOME, INC.</b>                  411 Amboy Ave.                  Woodbridge, NJ 07095                  Mary Anne Sullivan, Sr. Dir.                  NJ Lic. 3830                  732-634-2818</p>
<p><b>RE / MAX PROPERTIES UNLIMITED</b>                  Frank Sokloski                  Sales Associate                  560 Inman Ave, Colonia NJ                  Office 732-382-0200                  Cell 732-713-9004                  coloniaremax@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>OWEN S. DUNIGAN &amp; CO.</b>  <b>Plumbing &amp; Heating</b>                  James Juarez                  Woodbridge 732-634-0630                  Rahway 732-381-4544                  Metuchen 732-494-5251</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STEWART'S Root Beer</b></p> <p>347 Jacques Ave, Rahway, NJ                  Carl Gargano 732-388-2080                  Open All Year Round</p>
<p><b>HALL RENTALS</b></p> <p>Call Ed Lenart                  For Reservations                  732-382-0824</p>	<p><b>Carpet Place</b>  <b>Flooring Specialty Store</b></p> <p>Inman Grove Shopping Center                  1125 Inman Ave                  Edison NJ 08820                  Tel: 908-668-0784                  Fax: 908-668-0795                  www.carpetplacenj.com</p>	<p><b>KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE</b></p> <p><b>TRUST YOUR FUTURE "TO US"</b></p> <p>Bob Jimenez 732-323-6767                  Field Agent</p>
 <p><b>Strawberry's Pub &amp; Pizza</b>  <b>FAMILY DINING</b></p> <p>110 AMBOY AVE WOODBRIDGE                  Phone 732-634-3131 Fax- 634-2421                  New York Style Pizza</p>	 <p><b>Robert Golden</b>                  Realtor Associate                  Direct (732) 596-2115                  Cell 908-930-1017                  "Look for another Golden Opportunity"</p>	<p><b>Creative Accessories</b>                  "clothing, jewelry &amp; gifts"</p> <p><b>Judy and Frank Sokloski</b>                  145 Cleveland Ave, Colonia NJ                  732-574-3354 fax 732-574-3714                  "Fundraisers a specialty"</p>

**Important Dates:**

**January**

1	Superbowl Sunday Party	6:00 PM
3	Social Meeting	8:00 PM
10	Officer's Meeting	8:00 PM
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*The Council Compass*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
MIDDLESEX COUNCIL # 857  
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