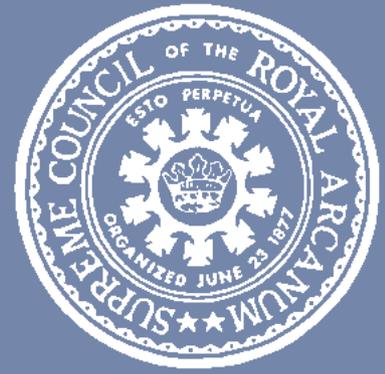
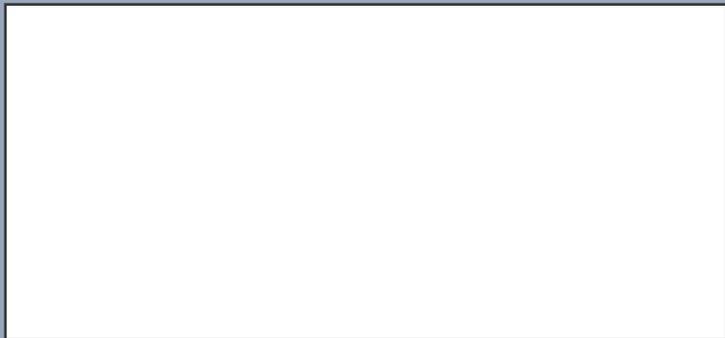


ROYAL ARCANUM
AN INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY PROVIDING FAMILY PROTECTION

Bulletin



Winter Edition 2015



Official Publication of the
**Supreme Council of the
Royal Arcanum**

Fraternal Services to Our
Members Since 1877

A ROYAL GIFT

A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Regent Suprême

Carl J Krzystofczyk - Supreme Regent



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It's been a very exciting time since our last Bulletin reached you. **The Royal Gift of the Royal Arcanum** is reaching more people and making a difference. Our councils have reported more than 60 charitable activities, from hands-on projects to donations of needed funds, since the Session in August. I can't tell you how proud I am of all of you. Flip through the pages to read more about these charitable events, and perhaps get inspired, with new ideas for your own councils.

In addition, our members have held dozens of social activities (often combining the social and the charitable aspects). Our members have been making a huge difference and having fun doing it! Want to know what's going on and become a part of it? We can help! In addition to this Bulletin, we've really stepped up our online activities. Check in on our web site, www.royalarcanum.com, where our calendar lists all upcoming activities we know about. And our Facebook page lists many of our upcoming events as well. Just search for "Royal Arcanum" and Like our page, identified by our familiar purple Supreme Council logo. All members are welcome and friendships are made easily. Why not give it a try?

We'll list the activities we know about, but we can't list what we don't know. Council secretaries and members at large, if you know about an upcoming charitable or social event or even a council meeting and you don't see it listed on our calendar or upcoming events, give us a quick call at the Home Office, or email us (contact information is on page 3). Feel free to reach out to me directly at ckrzystofczyk@royalarcanum.com. Have a great Spring!

Yours in V. M. C.,

Carl J Krzystofczyk
Supreme Regent

Chers frères et sœurs,

Ça a été un moment très excitant depuis notre dernier Bulletin vous avez atteint. **Le cadeau royal du Royal Arcanum** atteint plus de gens et faire une différence. Nos conseils ont rapporté plus de 60 activités de bienfaisance, des projets pratiques sur les dons de fonds nécessaires, depuis la session en Août. Je ne peux pas vous dire combien je suis fier de vous tous. Feuilletez les pages pour en savoir plus sur ces événements de bienfaisance, et peut-être vous inspirer, avec des nouvelles idées pour vos propres conseils.

En outre, nos membres ont tenu des dizaines d'activités sociales (souvent combiner le social et les aspects de bienfaisance). Nos membres ont fait une énorme différence et se amuser à le faire! Vous voulez savoir ce qui se passe et devenir une partie de celui-ci? Nous pouvons vous aider! En plus de ce bulletin, nous avons vraiment intensifié nos activités en ligne. Arrivée sur notre site Web, www.royalarcanum.com, où notre calendrier répertorie toutes les activités à venir que nous connaissons. Et notre page Facebook énumère plusieurs de nos événements à venir ainsi. Il suffit de chercher "Royal Arcanum" et comme notre page, identifié par notre pourpre logo du Conseil Suprême. Tous les membres sont les bienvenus, et les amitiés sont faites facilement. Pourquoi ne pas faire un essai?

Nous listons que les activités que nous connaissons, mais nous ne pouvons pas énumérer ce que nous ne savons pas. Secrétaires et membres du Conseil dans son ensemble, si vous connaissez un événement de bienfaisance ou sociale à venir, ou même une réunion du conseil, et vous ne le voyez pas listé sur notre calendrier ou les événements à venir, nous donner un appel rapide au Home Office, ou nous envoyer un courriel (information de contact est à la page 3). Ne hésitez pas à tendre la main à moi directement à krzystofczyk@royalarcanum.com. Avoir un grand printemps!

Bien à vous en V. M. C.,

Carl J Krzystofczyk
Regent Suprême

BULLETIN COMMITTEE
 Cynthia A. Macon, Chairman
 Carl J. Krzystofczyk
 Kenneth J. Kolek

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 James E. O'Neill, Chairman
 Carl J. Krzystofczyk
 Errica Conforto
 Deborah L. Young
 Peter D. Ferrara
 Kenneth J. Kolek
 Cynthia A. Macon
 Janice S. Brazas
 Thomas Bayliss

EDITOR
 Patrick Fitzgerald

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
 Dotti Pagnani

EDITING STAFF
 Frances Magnotta

EDITORIAL OFFICE
 61 Batterymarch St.
 Boston, MA 02110-3208

Toll Free 1-888-ARCANUM (272-2686)
 E-Mail:
 INFORMATION@ROYALARCANUM.COM

Official publication (Publication number USPS 472-260) of the Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum, 61 Batterymarch Street, Boston, MA 02110-3208. Published quarterly. Periodicals postage paid at Boston, MA 02110 and additional mailing offices. Subscription terms: one dollar per year. Printed in the U.S.A.

Postmaster: In the event magazine is undeliverable, please send Form 3579 addressed to Royal Arcanum, 61 Batterymarch St., Boston, MA 02110-3208.

Volume 115 Number 1
 January, February, March 2015



**Bayonne Council
 Fraternal Projects**
 Page 6



Medora Council
 Page 13



**Veterans' Pins
 Awarded**
 Page 17



Scan Our QR Code to
 Visit Our Website

NEW JERSEY FRATERNAL NEWS

PAGE 4

CLAREMONT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

PAGE 5

HOLIDAY PROJECT FOR TROOPS

PAGE 8

INTEGRITY CELEBRATES HOLIDAYS

PAGE 11

NEW 2015 PROMOTION

PAGE 12

CAROLINAS ACTIVITIES

PAGE 18

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

PAGE 21

REFLECTIONS ON REFLECTIONS

PAGE 27

JUNIOR GAMES

PAGES 28 - 29

NEWYEAR'S CHEER

PAGE 30

**Deceased
 Members**

Recently Deceased Members are reported on our web site on a monthly basis. Click "About Us" and "In Memoriam."

**Bulletin
 Deadline**

Articles and photos must be in the editorial office by **March 27, 2015**. Mail to the Royal Arcanum Bulletin, Home Office, 61 Batterymarch Street, Boston, MA 02110-3208.

Next Publication Date: May 4, 2015

INSTALLATION CEREMONY:

Past Supreme Regent Peter Ferrara was the Installing Officer at the NJ-NY Fraternal Alliance's annual convention held in October. Supreme Warden Robert Galdon was elected as President for the 2014 - 2015 term and Fraternal Director Cindy Macon was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer.



CULTURAL DISPLAY:

NJ Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon and Versatility Community Service Committee Member Christine Piscitelli are shown at the display which they coordinated at the Bayonne Municipal Building in tribute to the contributions of Poles in America and Polish American culture.



HERITAGE CELEBRATION:

Bayonne and Versatility Council members were joined by Bayonne Mayor, the Honorable James Davis (fifth

from left) at ceremonies honoring General Casimir Pulaski, native of Poland and Revolutionary War hero who became Father of the American Calvary.



READY FOR THE MARCH:

Versatility officers Ann Dworzanski, Cindy Macon and Evelyn Magarban enjoyed the festivities in Manhattan prior to the Pulaski Parade along Fifth Avenue.



HELPING HANDS:

Bayonne officers John Baranowski, Gen Macon and Marie Baranowski organized the council's autumn harvest food collection for local food pantries and shelters throughout Hudson

County. Several trips with a bountiful supply of soup and non-perishable food products were gifted along with monetary donations to assist the mission of service to the poor and hungry in the area.



CLAREMONT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

On November 24, 2014, council officers delivered 20 turkeys, boxes of pasta, canned vegetables, chicken broth, tangerines, turkey gravy, stuffing and tomato sauce to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on Belmont Avenue in the Bronx. All items were distributed to the needy by the Missionary Sisters of Catechism, in time for Thanksgiving. Money used to purchase these items was donated by Claremont Council, Royal Arcanum Association of NY and members of Claremont Council.



Shown in photo are: August and Frances Magnotta, Diana Chiechi, Joe Conforto, Fred DiBartolo, Errica Conforto, Sister Edna, Sister Erlinda, Carmine Campo and Bettina DiBartolo.

On November 3, 2014, members of Claremont Council #1655, Errica and Joe Conforto, August and Fran Magnotta, delivered children's and adult clothing, toys and two car seats to the Sisters, Servants of Mary which will be distributed by the Sisters to families in need.



Shown in the photo are Sister Mercedes Escamilla, Sister Purificacion Ferreo, Errica Conforto, Sister Rosa Cervantes, Fran Magnotta, Mother Germana Contreras and Joe Conforto. Brother Augie Magnotta took the photo.

Submitted by Frances Magnotta

ILLINOIS JUNIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 6, 2014, the Grand Council of Illinois held its annual Junior Christmas Party at Riggio's Restaurant in Niles, Illinois.



Santa (Bill Wire) surprises Illinois Junior members with Christmas joy.

Deputy Supreme Regent David Covelli made the arrangements for the very popular yearly luncheon.

Over forty parents and children attended the pizza party including several new members to the Royal Arcanum. Unfortunately, several children missed the event due to illness, but Santa's helpers made sure those children still received their gifts.

Grand Regent Bill Wire and his wife Florence were in attendance. The newly-elected Supreme Regent Carl Krzystofczyk and his wife Christine attended the party as well.

The guests enjoyed an "all you can eat pizza and salad luncheon" while waiting for Santa to arrive.

Santa Claus (Bill Wire) brought wonderful gifts for all of the children. The smiles on the children's faces proved that this was a most enjoyable event.

Fort Dearborn member Mickey Rhode worked very hard selecting the gifts for Santa to present. She did a

wonderful job helping to make this a Christmas party for all to remember.

Submitted by Nicole Covelli - Grand Secretary



BAYONNE COUNCIL FRATERNAL PROJECTS

Veterans' Tribute: In commemoration of Veterans' Day, Bayonne Council members visited the Bayonne Veterans' Museum where an ever-growing display of artifacts and memorabilia serve as a permanent remembrance of the service and sacrifices of the men and women from the Bayonne area who served in the Armed Forces. The members were



proud to recognize several fellow fraternal brothers whose photos and personal effects have been donated to the museum.



Bayonne members at the uniform exhibition in the museum

Supporting the

Mission: Bayonne Council #695 conducted its International Fraternal Service Project for the Giordano Food Pantry at Our Lady of Assumption Parish in Bayonne.

According to Reverend Joseph Barbone, Pastor, there is a steady rise in the number of families and individuals in need, most especially during the harsh winter months. A variety of food items was also contributed by the Arcanians. The volunteer staff at the pantry provides hot, nutritious



Bayonne's Service Committee at OLA

meals, grocery parcels, healthcare essentials, coats and winter gear for the poor, homeless, and aged in the local area. With matching funds from the Supreme Council, a monetary donation of \$1,000 was gifted to this community cause. The IFS presentation was made to Marianne Silvani and Janice Machin, Co-Chairs of the program at OLA. Taking part were Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon, Grand Regent Richard Macon, F.I.C., Bayonne Council Regent John Baranowski and Versatility Council Past Regent Marie Baranowski.

RHODE ISLAND JUNIORS VISIT NURSING HOME

On Saturday, October 25, 2014, excited, costumed children made their way to Summit Commons Nursing Home for their annual pre-Halloween visit.

The children of Pawtucket Council #537 and their parents and some grandparents came with their bountiful harvest of brightly painted pumpkins, which they had decorated during the prior week. Much to their delight, each resident received his/her own pumpkin.

Members participating were Lisa, Judy-Lynn, Jacob and Jessica Kolek, Sandy, Rich, Nicholas and Victoria Gauvin, Karen and Kaitlyn Lockaby, Mary Ellen, Walter and Addison Zuba, Brandon, Judy and Ken Kolek.



SUPREME REGENT VISITS RHODE ISLAND

On Saturday, November 8, 2014, our new Supreme Regent Carl J. Krzystofczyk from Chicago, Illinois and his wife Christine visited Rhode Island to present Carl's new program, "A Royal Gift". The meeting was held at the Hose Company #6 Restaurant in Pawtucket.

Grand Regent Lynn Kolek opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Junior members then came forward to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the American and Canadian National Anthems. The invocation was given by Brother John Ball. Lynn Kolek

introduced the Supreme Council Officers and their spouses who were in attendance. In addition to Carl and his wife Christine, Lynn introduced Supreme Vice Regent Errica Conforto and her husband Joe from the Bronx, New York, and Supreme Secretary Ken Kolek and his wife Judy from Rhode Island.

After enjoying a delicious family-style dinner, the Juniors distributed the Supreme Regent's Program, and all followed along as they watched a PowerPoint presentation by our Supreme Regent. Brother Carl spoke about his program called "A Royal Gift". He stated that

our Society has always helped those in need, and thus he believes this is more precious than the riches of kings and queens and thus it truly is "A Royal Gift". He spoke about our wonderful insurance and annuity products and how our members support charitable causes. He

introduced a new way for members to attend meetings. For those that can't find the time to attend meetings in person, he has introduced the "Royal Arcanum E-ttendance". This program allows members to attend meetings through Facebook.

Carl encouraged everyone to attend

Royal Arcanum's Mini-Vacation to be held at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia from Sunday, July 26, 2015 to Thursday, July 30, 2015.

All attendees received promotional gifts and three lucky winners received beautiful coasters.

In closing, Lynn Kolek expressed gratitude to those who donated by check or brought food items for Pawtucket's Soup Kitchen to help those in need. Lynn also thanked everyone for attending.



Rhode Island Officers happily welcomed the visiting Supreme Council Officers.

SIMPLIFIED ISSUE PLAN

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- * No increase of premium
 - * No decrease of death benefit
 - * No medical exam
 - * Cash accumulation values
- and more....



Issue Ages

No Medical Exam

20-85**

Minimum Face Amount

Age 20-85** - \$2,500

Maximum Amount

Age 20-69** - \$50,000

Age 70-85** - \$25,000

Not Available in all States

** Maximum issue age for Washington is 65

INTEGRITY COUNCIL TRIES TO MAKE OTHERS HAPPIER



Integrity Council is noted by many people for the thousands of dollars it gives to charitable works, but the council also realizes the importance of engaging “one on one” with those receiving their assistance.

Feeding their “homeless friends” who come to Arch Street United Methodist Church in down-town Philadelphia Sunday nights is becoming a very meaningful tradition for the council members.

On Sunday evening, November 9, 2014, thirteen Integrity members prepared and served a hot dinner of baked ziti, fresh salad, Italian bread, and assorted cakes and cookies to the 198 people without homes who came seeking a warm place to pause peacefully and enjoy a nutritious

meal that evening. The Royal Arcanum folk had purchased and prepared all the food ahead of time, then warmed it up and served it.

Homelessness in our cities seems to be increasing. When Integrity first started this dinner program, there were about one hundred people seeking a good meal; now there are approximately 200 guests, many of whom are transients, such as one young man who was thrown out of his home because of his sexual orientation. Many are people with mental and emotional instability, and some are addicts. Others are just “down on their luck.”

Submitted by Dr. Herb Snyder

Members of Integrity Council and a Young Volunteer



Members of Integrity Council prepare to feed the Homeless



HOLIDAY PROJECT FOR THE TROOPS

Grand Regent Richard Macon, F.I.C., and the New Jersey members shared holiday cheer by supporting active military men and women through the Operation Shoebox Campaign in the Garden State.

A “Wish List” provided by the troops included a variety of long-missed items from the states, including popular snacks (M&Ms and licorice for the sweet tooth), hot cocoa, socks, batteries, facecloths, CDs, puzzle

books, bath products and more.

Greeting cards with notes of appreciation were signed by the Arcanian families and together with small American flags, were included in the parcels. The Grand Council is grateful for the generosity expressed by our subordinate councils and members for the project which will continue throughout next year.



Shown in photo with a sample gift box are Grand Regent Richard Macon, Margaret Rummel (Kempton Council), John Baranowski (Bayonne Council), Rosella Berger (Woodside Council) and Project Co-Chairmen Richard Romelczyk (Bayonne Council) and Ann Dworzanski (Versatility Council).

SISTERS, SERVANTS OF MARY LUNCHEON

On November 16, 2014, a luncheon was held at Marina del Ray Caterers, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Sisters, Servants of Mary in the United States, with 500 people in attendance. Also in attendance was Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York who spoke about the Sisters, who for many years, provided faithful and exemplary service in the Bronx and surrounding areas, caring for the sick in their own homes, at no charge. The Sisters have been a source of invaluable assistance, not only to the sick, but to their families as well.

The Cardinal sat for only about 20 minutes to have his lunch and the rest of the time he mingled with the people in attendance.

The management and crew of Marina del Ray did a marvelous job in serving such a large group of people.

Submitted by Fran and Augie Magnotta



Shown in photo: Augie and Fran with Cardinal Dolan. The reason for the smiles, we told the Cardinal that we will be married 59 years in January and he said, "That's fantastic, God bless you. I hope you're not looking for an annulment". Augie's response was, "Your Eminence, I think that would not be wise".

YORKTOWNE COUNCIL JUNIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY



On December 20, 2014, Yorktowne Council members gathered for an afternoon of fellowship and an enjoyable luncheon with 32 adults and 11 Juniors in attendance. The Arcanians were treated to a wonderful performance by the puppet entertainers of the Yada Ministries. This group consisted of thirteen young and very talented people and their leader.

When Santa Claus arrived he was ho-ho-ho happy to present each of the children with a gift bag of presents. The youngsters were thrilled with all their treasures. Council officers extended special thanks to the Supreme Council and to Santa's elves for their support to making this another fun-filled family event.

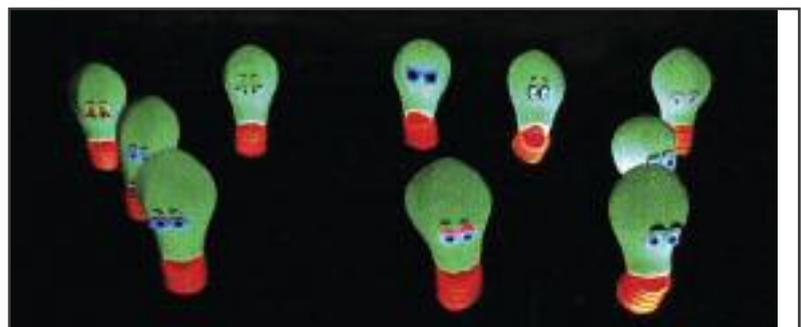
Before departing for home, the group savored some home baked cookies and exchanged good wishes for a happy holiday season.

Submitted by Herb Chronister

Photos by Barry Wolff



Yorktowne Juniors with Santa Claus



One of the puppet show's performances

INTEGRITY COUNCIL FRATERNAL PROJECT

Pennsylvania's Integrity Council #586 in Philadelphia conducted a fraternal project which supported two charitable causes. The council purchased twenty pies from MANNA (Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance). This organization provides nourishment and nutritional counseling to men and women in the greater Philadelphia area and southern New Jersey who are coping with life-threatening illnesses. Results of a research study recently conducted by MANNA indicated that clients who received MANNA's medically-appropriate meals had lower healthcare costs, and spent less time in the hospital than similar people who did not receive meals. The organization has delivered more than 10 million meals over its 24 year history, and strives to promote hope and healing to ensure that people live longer, healthier lives.

The pies purchased were then donated to St. John's Hospice. The poor and disenfranchised men who are assisted through the programs of the hospice were able to partake in a warm holiday dinner in an atmosphere of friendship and acceptance. The pies supplemented the desserts which were prepared one evening for the meal for nearly 100 men. The hospice is an emergency short-term residence with a mission to be a community where homeless persons find dignity, respect, nourishment and opportunities for new beginnings.

Both organizations expressed their gratefulness for the generosity exemplified by Integrity Council. Such fraternal support enables their work in serving those in need to continue in the community.



Joe Tedesco with the "Pie in the Sky" donations purchased from MANNA



The 20 pies being picked up for delivery to St. John's Hospice



Unloading the pies at the Hospice

MEMBER WANTS TO HELP KEEP A TRADITION GOING

San Francisco, August 2013. The Supreme Council members that were in attendance at the Mini-Vacation were honored to meet a special young man and his family.

Jacob, the Leukemia Slayer is a very courageous and selfless young man. Life has handed him lemons and, oh, the lemonade he has made! His Christmas wish includes others and will continue to do so.

Jacob's family has moved from California to North Carolina, and Jacob wanted to continue to do his Santa project and share with leukemia patients at Duke University Hospital. He needed some support in this project.

While shopping for a different project for Christmas, Diane Calain was thinking about Jacob and his family. Having made a special donation to the project in San Francisco, in memory of Ed and Andy Calain, the thought crossed her mind, "Why not

continue helping Jacob share good will?"

After Diane finished her shopping, she called the Home Office and with the permission of the Supreme Council Junior Committee, she went to the back room at Plant Industrial Advertising and packed up some of the gifts that had been purchased for our own Juniors and not needed for picnics or Christmas parties. This was all sent to Jacob at his new home. After receiving the package, he posted his picture with the gifts on Facebook; thankful for everything sent for the kids.

Thank you, Jacob for giving us a chance to pay it forward and for all that you do. I am asking all members of the Royal Arcanum to please consider helping this project next Christmas. Unfortunately the need will continue to be there for a very long time. We CAN all make a difference in a sick child's life.

Submitted by Diane Calain

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

On November 10, 2014, members of San Jose Council #2384 traveled to Palo Alto, CA to deliver holiday goodies to "Fisher House," located on the campus of the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital. "Fisher House" provides military families with free housing so they can be close to a loved one during their hospital stay. This is for veterans and service personnel, who are being treated for an illness, disease or rehabilitation. "Fisher House" is a part of several "Fisher Houses" located at major military and VA Medical Centers nationwide. Our Royal Arcanum

members collected lots of food, sundry items, etc. to help the families with their stay. It was a great experience and we know that it will make their holidays a little bit brighter.

A special thank you to San Jose Orator Toinette Fanelli, Vice Regent Grace Howell, Regent Joanie Francis and Grand Regent Alice Mangano for leading this great holiday charity project.

Submitted by Jim O'Neill



Chairman Jim O'Neill, Grand Regent Alice Mangano and Vice Regent Grace Howell.



Left to right, Jim O'Neill, Grace Howell, Alice Mangano, Fisher House Director Betsey Streizel, and Joanie Francis.

INTEGRITY CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS

Twenty-five members of Integrity Council, their spouses, significant others, and friends paused to have a good time on December 8th at their Annual Christmas Party held at POPI'S Italian Restaurant, one of the best in the city of Philadelphia!

A full course dinner arranged by Joseph Tedesco was served in the finest tradition. The traditional gift exchange was conducted by Paul D'Emilio.

Just when someone thought that he or



Joan Tedesco, Kyle Tedesco, Joseph Tedesco, Joseph Malone, Peter Ferrara, Antoinette Malone

she had the ideal gift, the next in line would like it better and take it, all in the fun-filled spirit so typical of the Royal Arcanum. At the end of the evening everyone seemed very happy with the special dinner party hosted by the Regent, Carmine Rodia, in place of the regular monthly meeting.

The accompanying picture reflects the spirit of the up-beat party!

Submitted by Dr. Herb Snyder



Exciting New Promotion for 2015

15/15/15/15

Program for Subordinate Councils

Begins **April 1, 2015** and Continues for **15 Months**

With the Goal for Subordinate Councils to Enroll **15 New Juniors**

on the Whole Life, Twenty Pay Life, Life Paid Up at 65 or *Single Premium Plan

(*Minimum \$10,000 Policy Face Amount)

Here's **15 Great Reasons** to Enroll a New Junior:

1. Lock in future insurability
2. Accumulate a lifetime of value
3. Affordable rates
4. Premiums will not increase
5. Dividend participation
6. Policy earns cash value
7. Competitive Scholarship Awards
8. Educational Grants
9. Educational Loans (on qualifying policies)
10. Christmas Gifts
11. Summertime Activity Fun and Gifts
12. Guest at mini vacation when registered with parents
13. Prizes for Bulletin contests and puzzles
14. Makes a great birthday or holiday gift
15. Receive a Supreme Regent's RA shirt as recommender

Visit the web site (www.royalarcanum.com) or contact the

Home Office (1-888-272-2686) for program criteria.



MEDORA COUNCIL ACTIVE IN COMMUNITIES

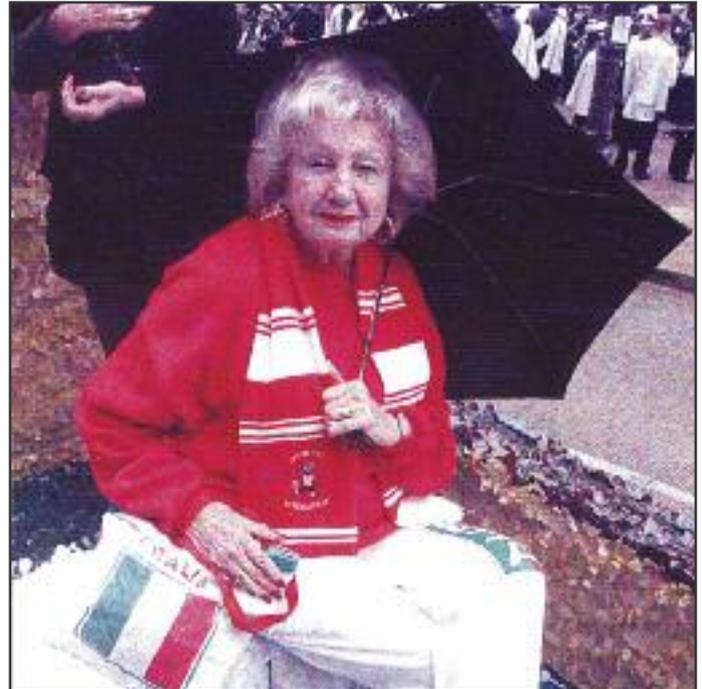
Comboni Mission Support: Bill and Florence Wire served on the committee for the annual dinner dance held at Porretta's Banquet Hall in support of the work of the Comboni Missionaries throughout the globe. Dedicated to their calling, the missionaries often risk their lives while helping people during times of war, drought and famine and continue the work of Saint Daniel Comboni which was begun nearly 130 years ago.



Christmas Cheer: Medora Council members Bill Wire, Florence Wire, Jo Ann Serpico and Theresa Paterno participated in an enchanted celebration of "sweets and treats" in Wheeling, Illinois. Through the generosity of the guests, several charities were gifted for the holiday season. These included mothers and newborns in need, food pantries, and animal shelters. The donations made the Christmas season merrier for the very grateful recipients.



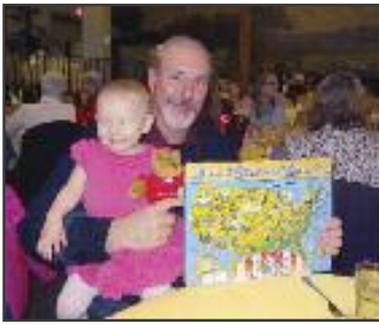
Columbus Day Parade: Under rainy skies, Florence Wire joined the festivities for the 62nd annual Columbus Day Parade in downtown Chicago. The theme of the event was "Italian Heroes of the Holocaust." Florence and Bill were honored to be on the deck of the Santa Maria float which was sponsored by a local company, Supreme Lobster.



A Fairy Tale Christmas: Medora Council members Florence Wire and Jo Ann Serpico volunteered with the Italian American Women's Organization for a fashion show to benefit "One Step At A Time" Camp for children afflicted with cancer and leukemia. The program gives children hope, strength and understanding through shared experiences and is operated by more than 300 volunteers, including medical professionals, former campers and their family members.



HARRISBURG COUNCIL CHRISTMAS EVENT



Charlie Karl with grandfather, Jim and her Royal Gifts.

and entertaining show. This year we had 8 Juniors which included a new guest - 18 month old, baby girl, Charlotte "Charlie" Karl who brightened our day!

We would like to see additional members join us each year - so tell your friends and neighbors and become a Royal Arcanum member!

Harrisburg Council #499 wishes everyone a blessed Happy New Year!

Submitted by Pauline P. Thomas



On Saturday, December 6, 2014, Harrisburg Council #499 held its annual Christmas Event at Allenberry Playhouse, Boiling Springs, PA. There were 24 members in attendance.

As money is melting away at the North Pole and Santa is crunching numbers to keep up with kids' demands for high-tech toys, Harrisburg Council and their loyal family and friends gathered together for a delicious dinner



Jim and Lillie Herbst - Blessings to our Royal Lady who is 101 years young!



Rick Rubin and Judie Marcus enjoying the event.



Our Juniors - Happy to gather together.



The Keeseman-Ferry family poses for a family picture.



Phyllis, Clint and grandson, Ethan Timmins - sharing a moment.



It's exciting to play with the toys!

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS CORNER

In 2014 we increased enrollment of new members by over 90% compared to 2013. We also increased our first year premium by over 100% compared to 2013! These are nice accomplishments to have on the business side of the operation, and something we should certainly be proud of on many levels. As I've stated in numerous articles in the past, we will continue to look at increasing the financial products we offer, and continue to offer members secure products. The profits from the business operation fund the non-profit Fraternal endeavors, and are vital to our overall sustainability as a Society. I've set some pretty big goals for 2015 and expect that we will meet these goals on the business side as well as the fraternal side.

I'm looking for each and every member of the Society to think of a family member or friend that would benefit from being a member of Royal Arcanum, and have them join in 2015. There are many benefits to being a member, from the financial products that we offer to the Fraternal Activities, as well as the Educational benefits available to our junior members. As we head into the Spring season (I hope soon in New England!), I'm looking for each of our councils to consider hosting at least one charitable event, and to then share what event was held. I love to hear about these activities and promote such activities in the Bulletin as well as our Website and Facebook page.

Our Royal Arcanum website, www.royalarcanum.com is a great resource to review our insurance products, member

benefits, our history and much, much more. Please also consider reviewing our Facebook page, and "Like Us" if you're on Facebook!

"For time and the world do not stand still. Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future."

John F. Kennedy



I think JFK was right: It's vital that we continue to progress and move forward by making improvements, allowing us to be successful in the future.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to reach out to me, as I always enjoy hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas G. Benoit".

Nicholas G. Benoit
Director of Operations
nbenoit@royalarcanum.com
(617) 426-4135 (888) 272-2686

WHY GET A DOG? BETTER HEALTH, FOR ONE THING

A dog can be your best friend—and a benefit to your health as well. Here are some ways owning a dog can keep you hale and hearty in mind as well as body:

- **More exercise.** Just walking the dog gets you out of the house, but most dog owners do more than dash out for a few minutes once or twice a day. You'll take longer walks and get more exercise once you're outside with your pooch.
- **Better mental health.** Studies suggest that pet owners are less likely to suffer from depression and other mental health problems. The affection they get from their pets is one factor, along with the need to focus on their pets' welfare and be more active.
- **Illness prevention.** Dogs may have the ability to smell cancer in your body, detect low



blood sugar, sense foods that their owners are allergic to (such as peanuts), and help people through seizures. Some of these talents require specialized training; others may be at least somewhat instinctive.

- **Allergy resistance.** Children growing up in a house with dogs seem less likely to develop allergies later in life. Check with your pediatrician, of course, and research which breeds are best suited for young children before going to your local shelter.
- **Happier social life.** When you're out on walks and exercising with your dog, people will naturally gravitate toward you to ask questions about your pet. Many people form meaningful friendships within their group of dog owners.

CORONATION COUNCIL FRATERNAL PROJECT

Our Charity Project was a food drive in which we collected \$300 worth of food for the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women in Ontario. We had 50 people in attendance. Gloria Donaldson was the winner of a 50/50 door prize drawing and donated her winnings to the Welcome Centre, so this charitable cause received 100% of the money collected. In addition, a check was presented to them in the amount of \$1,000 that the Council received for the 2014 Lorraine D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award.



Left to right, Carl Krzystofczyk, Darcy Bayliss, Chanessa (Representative from the Welcome Centre Shelter for Women), Jim Mulhearn, Gloria Donaldson and Debbie Young

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH RECEIVES HOLIDAY CHEER

On December 5, 2014, Grand Regent Alice Mangano and Regent Joanie Francis presented two carts of presents to St. Martin's Church and Jennifer Tavares, who ministers to over

six senior citizen homes in the San Jose area, to share with the seniors. These were collected at our annual Junior Christmas Party. Special thanks to all council members for brightening the holiday for many, many senior citizens.



Submitted by Jim O'Neill



CORONATION COUNCIL CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS



Coronation Council members gathered for a Christmas Dinner.



Left to right, sisters Rebekah, Hope and Gabriella



Left to right, Colin, Reese, Savanah and Erin (holding baby Claire)

VETERANS' PINS AWARDED IN CORONATION #2224



Receiving the 25 year pin were Doug Zavitz, Anne Dumouchelle, Heather Mullins with daughter Adeline and Nickolas Kriz.



The group receiving the 35 year pin included Brian Dumouchelle, Carol Zavitz, Joanne and Lino Marcuzzi and Eleanor and John White.



David Lesperance, Virginia Lauzon and Morgan Young all received the 45 year pin.



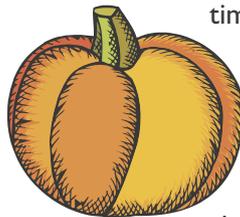
Marty Cullen (second from left) received his 65 year pin. The presentation was made by Deborah Young, Tom Bayliss and Carol Zavitz.

"A SPECIAL HAPPY HALLOWEEN FOR SENIORS"



Grace Howell with senior citizen, Ann Thompson

On October 29, 2014, San Jose Regent Joanie Francis and Vice Regent Grace Howell made home deliveries of pumpkins to senior citizens who live in the Santa Clara Valley. Grace and Joanie worked in conjunction with the "Heart of the Valley" located in Santa Clara,



California. The "Heart of the Valley" is an organization that aids elderly senior citizens who need help and support within their homes. These seniors live by

themselves. The pumpkins, which were specially decorated by Grace Howell and Joanie Francis, were delivered to the seniors in time for Halloween.

Grace and Joanie wanted to bring a smile to their faces and to show them that we do care about them. They were so appreciative and really enjoyed all the attention and the hugs!



Vice Regent Grace Howell delivers a pumpkin to John Holland.

Submitted by Jim O'Neill

CAROLINAS ACTIVITIES



The Door Prizes



Conducting the door prize drawing.

On October 25, 2014 newly-elected Supreme Regent Carl Krzystofczyk and wife Christine, presented his "A Royal Gift" program to the Carolina Jurisdiction. While visiting, Carl and Christine exemplified true fraternalism by visiting with Harley and Judy Sampson. Harley is in rehab recovering from a recent stroke. Following his visit, Carl then presented his program to those who were in attendance. When the business was finished, Carl held several drawings for his new campaign.



Christine and Carl Krzystofczyk visiting Harley and Judy Sampson

Carl had hoped to be present at the presentation of Rhododendron's International Fraternal Service Project to the WNC (Western North Carolina) Rescue Mission, however, time would not allow it. C.D. Merrill, Regent of the Council presented the check to representatives of the Mission. Harley and Judy Sampson had collected over 60 coats in the "Coats for the Cold" campaign, these were also presented.



C.D. Merrill [c] presenting a check to the representatives of the WNC Rescue Mission.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE FOR THE CARMELITE NUNS

On December 18, 2014, members of San Jose Council #2384 traveled to Santa Clara, California to deliver food and goodies to the Carmelite Nuns at their monastery. This has been an annual tradition for over 30 years; recently conducted in memory of Past Grand Regent Paul Ferro. Special thanks to Edd and Judy Infantino for coordinating and buying the staples for the sisters. Present were Dominic Fanelli, Toinette Fanelli, Judy Infantino, Alice Mangano, Sister Andrea, Marilyn Fanelli, Edd Infantino, Jim O'Neill.

*Submitted by Jim O'Neill
Photo by Joanie Francis*



"PUMPKIN FEST" FOR PLUM TREE CARE CENTER

Kaitlyn and Nicholas Gore, newest Junior members of San Jose Council #2384 and granddaughter and grandson of Regent Joanie Francis and Chairman Jim O'Neill, started their charitable activities off right with the Royal Arcanum. Katy and Nick organized a project, "Pumpkin Fest", with help from some of their fellow students from Fisher Middle School in Los Gatos, CA. Fifteen students gathered on Saturday morning, October 18, 2014 at Teresa Leiker's house in Los Gatos, and spent the day decorating and creating beautiful pumpkins with fancy faces and frills.



Students busy decorating.

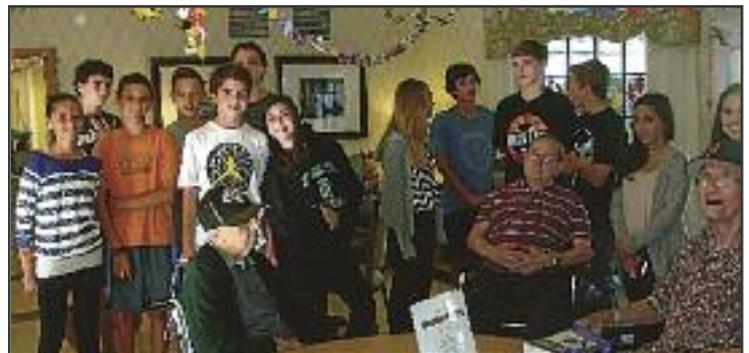
One day the following week, the students traveled to the Plum Tree Care Center in Los Gatos (San Jose) to distribute their pumpkins to the convalescing senior citizens at the center. The smiles and tears from the seniors brought happiness and joy to everyone. A special thanks to Teresa Leiker, Tammy Gore, Grace Howell and Joanie Francis, for their efforts and support of the project. A huge

thank you to all the students who took the time to show love and support for the senior citizens!

Submitted by Jim O'Neill



Delivering pumpkins to Plum Tree Care Center



Plum Tree Care Center residents enjoying the "Pumpkin Fest"

Students from Fisher Middle School decorating pumpkins



FRATERNAL HONORS FOR GRACE HOWELL

The Royal Arcanum is pleased to announce that our 2014 Fraternalist of the Year, Sister Grace Howell of San Jose Council #2384, California was conferred the honor of the American Fraternal Alliance's Fraternalist of the Year. The award was presented at the Alliance's annual meeting in Austin, Texas in September.



Alliance President and CEO Joseph Annotti, Grace Howell, Jim O'Neill and Chairman of the AFA Board William B. McKinney

Arcanians in attendance at the ceremony were James O'Neill, Ken Kolek, Paul D'Emilio, John Howell, Dominick and Marilyn Fanelli, Joanie Francis and Rosanne Kozlow. A \$1,000 honorarium in Grace's name was made by the Alliance to the North Central Intervention Program, a charity which she selected.

Grace's enthusiasm has encouraged members to get involved and volunteer for projects which are coordinated in the California jurisdiction. These include support for childhood cancer awareness, pediatric hospitals, veterans programs, military families, animal rescue and the homeless.

An active volunteer, Grace dedicates time to expanding gifting projects in her council to benefit the community and charitable causes. As a leader and teammate, Grace's compassion and energy continually motivate others to help those in most need, from newborn to elderly.

The Royal Arcanum Family is grateful for Grace's fraternal service and proud of her achievements.



Royal Arcanum members at the Alliance Annual Meeting

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It's the time of year when many of us get our exercise reluctantly by snow shoveling and plowing walkways, driveways and the steps leading to our front doors. Following the workout, we can relax with a rewarding cup of hot chocolate topped with mounds of whipped cream, and bake a tasty batch of those popular Toll House® cookies. When reaching for the milk, cocoa and prep mix, you may notice the 'best if used by' dates, only to see that they've already passed! What to do? Brave the wintery elements and hike to the nearest grocery store!

Many everyday items are stamped with such 'best by' dates that serve as a guide to peak flavor, quality and freshness. The Royal Arcanum councils and members are constant in their efforts for making fraternalism a part of their everyday life. Unlike those market and household products, there's no 'best by' date imprinted for fraternalism. It's always the right day and time to do something nice. The only thing essential is that you have to feel good about doing something good. In other words - you really want to do it!

With its vibrant history as a fraternal benefit society, the Royal Arcanum has demonstrated ongoing service to members and to the community, locally and at-large. Our greatest attribute, Charity, is the underpinning of fraternal good will and fellowship. For over 137 years, members have continued to embrace our fraternal mission of volunteer service. Time's not running out! The International Fraternal Service, Fraternalism in Action and Lend a Hand-Lift a Heart programs are available throughout the year and are not about to expire. Councils are encouraged to take the initiative and participate in these rewarding opportunities, and in doing so, promote the Royal Arcanum. NOW is always the right time to share "A Royal Gift" by organizing a fraternal project in support of a charitable cause or in whatever way possible to provide assistance where there

is a need. The members in your jurisdiction know best where council projects can make a difference. Soup kitchens, senior care homes, veterans' programs, youth camps, humane societies, children's hospitals, hospices, crisis shelters, libraries, and marathons for medical research have been recipients of some recently sponsored projects.

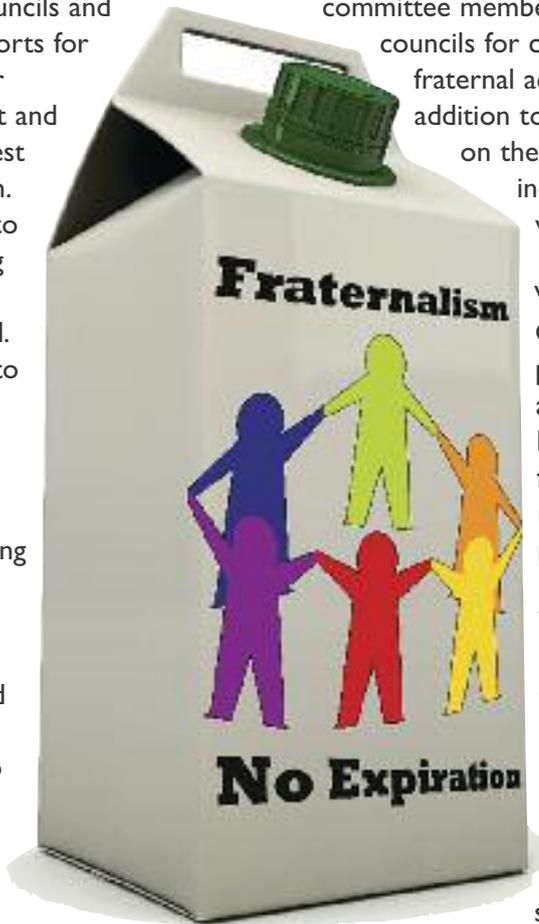


Appreciation is extended to the publicity and fraternal committee members in the grand and subordinate councils for communicating the news about their fraternal activities and charitable endeavors. In addition to the Bulletin, submissions for posting on the RA website and Facebook page, including upcoming special events, are welcomed.

Volunteers for the Fraternal Events Committee for our summer gifting project in Williamsburg, Virginia, will be appreciated. Contact the Fraternal Director if you wish to join the team for the mini vacation activities. These members will assist in coordinating plans in their jurisdiction in the weeks leading up to our gathering in Colonial Williamsburg. As we've done before, exchanging and blending ideas and abilities enables the Royal Arcanum Family to create memorable national projects, and this year we look forward to making it a "Star Spangled Salute!"

In closing, I hope that everyone stays safe, warm, and healthy. Spring's on the horizon. Baseball players will be gearing up for the new season, daffodils will be in bloom, and for sure the weather will be 'best by' then! So hang in there and keep smiling!

In friendship,
Cindy Macon



HOLIDAY PARTY IN SAN JOSE

San Jose Council #2384 held its annual Junior Christmas Party at St. Martin's Church on December 4, 2014. Our Junior members and adults enjoyed a wonderful hot dog dinner, thanks to efforts of Orator Toinette Fanelli. Santa Claus (John Howell) and Mrs. Claus (Grace Howell) delivered wonderful gifts to all our Junior Members. The Junior members played games, and the Juniors and adults decorated gingerbread men which were donated by Mrs. Claus, (Grace). Gifts, courtesy of the Royal Arcanum and

San Jose Council, were distributed to all our Juniors. Our members donated lots of toys and clothing for the elderly to be given to local charities and church programs.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the Christmas party which started the holiday season off just right!

Submitted By Jim O'Neill



**Big Kids
Having Fun**

**Our
Members
Can't Wait
For Santa**



**Junior
Members
Decorating
the
Gingerbread
Men**

**Santa,
Santa's
Elves and
All the
"Great
Kids"**



SAN JOSE COUNCIL SHOPS FOR CHARITY

On October 2, 2014, San Jose Council #2384, held its monthly meeting at "Gioia" in Los Gatos. Gioia Company was created by Kathy Winkelman to support Italian Heritage and bring "Joy" to those who give and those who receive. Royal Arcanum members were treated to a wonderful lunch by owner, Kathy Winkelman, and then shopped in her Italia Boutique, which is located in her home. Members enjoyed the gracious hospitality and shopping spree. Kathy donated 25% of the shopping proceeds to the Royal Arcanum. A check in the amount

of \$738 was presented to San Jose Regent Joanie Francis by Kathy, and will be used for the Gilroy Compassion Center which supports the needy and homeless people in Gilroy and South Santa Clara County area. A very special thanks to Grace Howell for arranging this function and profitable charity project. Together San Jose Council #2384 can make a huge difference in many lives.

Submitted by Joanie Francis



**Regent
Joanie
Francis and
Kathy
Winkelman**

**Lots of
gifts still to
buy from
the "Gioia"
Company**



JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS

I truly hope that all Juniors enjoyed their Christmas holidays and that your jurisdictions had some special activities at which you received gifts from the Royal Arcanum Home Office. I heard some feedback that the gifts of little stuffed dogs, wooden puzzles of the United States and music speakers were appreciated. Valentine cards will be sent out to the younger Juniors and all new Juniors who were signed up within the last year.

If you are a Royal Arcanum College Student and haven't sent in your name and the address where you will be living, this is your last call to do so this season. Call Dotti at the Home Office and give her that information today so we can send out a little something special to help you with your studies.

I hope all our High School Seniors have applied for our Royal Arcanum Scholarships and Grants. Last year alone we awarded over \$70,000.00 in Scholarships and Grants and would like to do the same this year, so good luck to all who applied.



We are offering reimbursement of up to \$50.00 to any Junior taking a workshop, course or tutoring to

assist them with improving their SAT, ACT, PSAT and LSAT. The receipts should be sent to the Royal Arcanum Home Office to the attention of Dotti Pagnani. Royal Arcanum is very committed to helping with our Juniors' education.

You should plan on joining your parents at our mini-vacation this summer in Williamsburg, Virginia for a fun time. We will have lots of fun activities planned and there will be no extra costs for Juniors attending with their parents.

I would love to hear from our Juniors regarding any new ideas of things you would like to communicate. My email address at which you can contact me is debbiesigns@xplornet.com

And lastly, be a reflection of what you'd like to see in others! If you want Love, give Love. If you want Honesty, give Honesty. If you want Respect, give Respect. You get in Return, What You Give!



Junior Department Director Deborah Young

RHODE ISLAND JUNIORS ON CHRISTMAS DAY



Rhode Island Juniors and their Christmas Gifts from the Supreme Council. Left to right: Jacob and Judy Lynn Kolek, Kaitlyn Lockaby and Jessica Kolek.

Photo taken by Ken Kolek

"COMFORT AND JOY" TO CHILDREN CANCER PATIENTS

On December 23, 2014, Santa Claus, (John Howell) and Mrs. Claus, (Grace Howell), Joanie Francis and Jim O'Neill traveled to Lucille Packard Children's



Grace Howell and Santa

Hospital, located on the campus of Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA.

Toys were distributed by Santa Claus to the younger patients in the oncology ward. Patients ranged in age from eight months to 17 years old. It was a very heart warming experience to see the joy in their eyes as Santa presented them with their Christmas gifts. Tehmina Manya Khan, fundraising manager at Lucille Packard, thanked all the members and the Royal Arcanum for their generosity.



Joanie Francis, Jim O'Neill, Grace Howell and John Howell as Santa Claus.

Submitted by Jim O'Neill

DONATION TO GILROY COMPASSION HOMELESS SHELTER

Grace Howell, John Howell, Dominick Fanelli, Alice Mangano, Joanie Francis, and Jim O'Neill (the photographer) of San Jose Council #2384 traveled to the Gilroy Compassion Homeless Shelter in Gilroy, CA. The Gilroy Shelter helps families, children and animals that are struggling, especially those that are outside in the cold weather.

The San Jose Council delivered toys, sundries, tarps, underwear, socks, warm clothing, dog food, cat food and

other necessities to the shelter. These were all obtained with donations made possible by the generosity of the San Jose Council members and Kathy Winkelman of "Gioia Enterprises." Our members also made homemade ornaments to decorate the shelter's tree.

The families that are in need in Gilroy certainly had a better holiday season because of our members' generosity.

Submitted By Jim O'Neill



Council members and Shelter staff unpacking donations.

INTERNATIONAL FRATERNAL SERVICE PROGRAM

On December 25, 2014 and January 7, 2015, Harrisburg Council #499 in Pennsylvania, conducted its International Fraternal Service projects. The council donated \$100.00 to the Downtown Daily Bread Food Bank. In addition, the council donated \$100.00 to the Tri-County Association for the Blind, in honor of former Secretary, Wyllene Peirce, who passed away in 2014. With matching funds from the Supreme Council, we were able to present donations of \$200 to each facility. We appreciate the support from the Royal Arcanum.

Submitted by Pauline Thomas



Pauline Thomas (l) and Lauren Thomas (r) presenting a check to a staff member of Downtown Daily Bread Food Bank.

SUPREME REGENT PRESENTS PROGRAM IN ILLINOIS

On November 8, 2014, Supreme Regent Carl Krzystofczyk presented his program to the Jurisdiction of Illinois. A luncheon arranged by Deputy Supreme Regent David Covelli was held at the Wildfire Restaurant in Glenview. Supreme Regent Carl Krzystofczyk presented a PowerPoint presentation of his 2015-2016 Program, “**A Royal Gift**” to almost forty members.

Carl discussed many of the products the Royal Arcanum offers, including the very popular annuity. He discussed the upcoming mini vacation which will be held in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. He stressed the need for more membership in the Royal Arcanum and new ways to increase our membership. The Royal Arcanum is now using the social media venue “Facebook” as a new way to reach new members, specifically the younger generation.

He then spoke to the members about their dedication to the Royal Arcanum. Carl brought a nice selection of gifts

to raffle off to the members. Carl also brought gifts for all those attending the luncheon.

In addition to the luncheon, a food drive was held, and members brought a large selection of non-perishable food. The food was donated to the “Sister Paulanne’s Needy Family Fund” of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, which is part of a local parish.

Grand Regent Bill Wire thanked the members for their support of our organization’s mission of fraternal service. Deputy Supreme Regent David Covelli thanked the members for attending the luncheon. The program concluded with Carl thanking the members for their continued service to the Royal Arcanum.

Submitted by Nicole Covelli

NOT SO FREQUENT FLIER

Ever frustrated by expiring airline frequent flier miles?

Recently I was in a pickle. My wife had almost enough miles for a ticket but those miles would expire before we would have a chance to use them.

Buying more miles to reach a free ticket or transferring those miles was cost prohibitive. I could get magazine subscriptions with these miles but the selection was limited.



Frustrated I called and was reluctantly told how to extend those miles with a nice fraternal twist. Through the airline, we were able to donate 500 miles to charity, which then extended the expiration of my wife’s remaining 24,000 miles for 18 months.

I am not sure if all airlines offer this service or if this is simply a “pilot” program for United Airlines, but it is worth asking the customer service team before you lose those precious miles.

Submitted by Patrick Fitzgerald

ST. ROSAIRE COUNCIL FRATERNAL PROJECT

Royal Arcanum ACA St. Rosaire Council hosted an event honoring the induction of Alfred H. Saulniers, PhD. into the American French Genealogical Society's Franco-American Hall of Fame. City Councillor Henry Bousquet presented Mr. Saulniers with a citation from the City of New Bedford, MA.



Photo shows left to right, Regent Raymond Patnaude, City Councillor Henry Bousquet, and Alfred H. Saulniers, PhD.

Mr. Saulniers has more than 35 years' experience in analyzing, teaching about, and solving economic problems related to developing countries. He has particular expertise in the fields of public enterprises, contract programs, and privatization, including defining privatization policies, implementing privatization programs and evaluating public policies on public enterprise

performance. He has also examined regional issues from the perspective of central government and, most recently, from the viewpoint of policies to foster local growth. He has worked in more than ten countries of Africa and Latin America with public enterprise executives, central and local government officials, and academics.

Since 2000, he has been an independent scholar, researching and writing about local history with a concentration on the role of Franco-Americans in southeastern Massachusetts and the textile history of a small Moroccan Berber tribe.

Submitted by Ray Patnaude

IN MEMORIAM: EVA BASIURA

1927 - 2014

Penn Laurel Council #2488 sadly announces that longtime member Eva Basiura has gone to glory. Eva was a dedicated member and attended council meetings for many years. She was a retired secretary for the Purolite Company, and a lifelong active member of Advocate-St. Stephen's United Methodist Church.

Eva was the mother of four children and grandmother of three. Her daughter, Jane Meyer and granddaughters, Jessica and Jennifer are also members of Penn Laurel Council. Eva loved everybody and everybody loved Eva; she always had a smile to brighten your day. All who knew her will miss her. Eva was laid to rest in Forrest Hill Cemetery in Huntingdon Valley, PA.

IN MEMORIAM: MARTIN THOMAS CULLEN

1921 - 2014

Martin Cullen passed peacefully on December 2, 2014, at 93 years of age. He was the husband of Kathleen "Kay" for over 60 years. He was predeceased by his siblings, William (Lorraine), Edward (Marie), Reford (Mary Jane), and Helen (Charles Sanders). Marty will be sadly missed by all of his nieces and nephews.



He was an avid baseball player in his younger days, transitioning to golf as he matured. He was an active member of Legion Branch #12 and especially enjoyed Monday night pool. A proud, 65 year member of the Royal Arcanum, Marty was very active in Coronation Council #2224 in Ontario.

REFLECTIONS ON REFLECTIONS

As I sit here composing what will probably be my last REFLECTIONS ARTICLE, my thoughts go back to January of 2003, when I wrote my first one.

I had been asked by the Editorial Staff to write a regular column for the ROYAL ARCANUM BULLETIN that would not be oriented towards Royal Arcanum matters, events, and individuals exclusively. A consultant had suggested that our Bulletin needed some material of a more general interest.

The Bulletin Editor asked me to simply listen to people's conversations, select a topic everyone was talking about, and then write an article on that topic. I called my column "REFLECTIONS," and then wrote my first article, entitled "The Aging of America." Apparently I was around a lot of people who were talking about growing old or planning for the golden years.

By the way, my assignment had included one other direction....I was not to write about anything religious or political. Being a full time pastor of a church, everyone around me talked about religion all the time, and we were also approaching a presidential year, so it seemed as though everyone was talking about nothing but

politics and religion. I must confess that I once wrote a REFLECTIONS article that was rejected by the "powers that be" because it was "too political."

My task never changed over the twelve years, and I can honestly say that I have tried hard to be faithful to doing exactly what the Editor had asked of me, including his suggested method for coming up with a topic. However, I would be remiss if I did not state that the hardest part of my

assignment has usually been that of coming up with an interesting topic. For me, once I decided upon a topic, I was "good to go."

I really appreciate the opportunity the ROYAL ARCANUM and BULLETIN EDITORIAL STAFF gave me to express myself four times a year in my REFLECTIONS ARTICLE. The experience has been a great

one, but the time has come to "wrap it up" and turn the assignment over to someone else. One thing is certain, that the column will never be outdated as long as it is written on a "topic everyone is talking about."

by Dr. Herb Snyder



COUNCIL DONATES TOYS FOR KIDS IN NEED



Toys, collected from our members at our annual Junior Christmas Party, were delivered to the Sacred Heart Community Center in San Jose. They would be gifted to underprivileged children for the holidays. Special thanks to Regent Joanie Francis and California Grand Regent Alice Mangano for their efforts in delivering the gifts to Sacred Heart. The members of San Jose Council #2384 are very generous and remembered all the kids in need!

Submitted by Jim O'Neill



JUNIOR WINTER COLORING

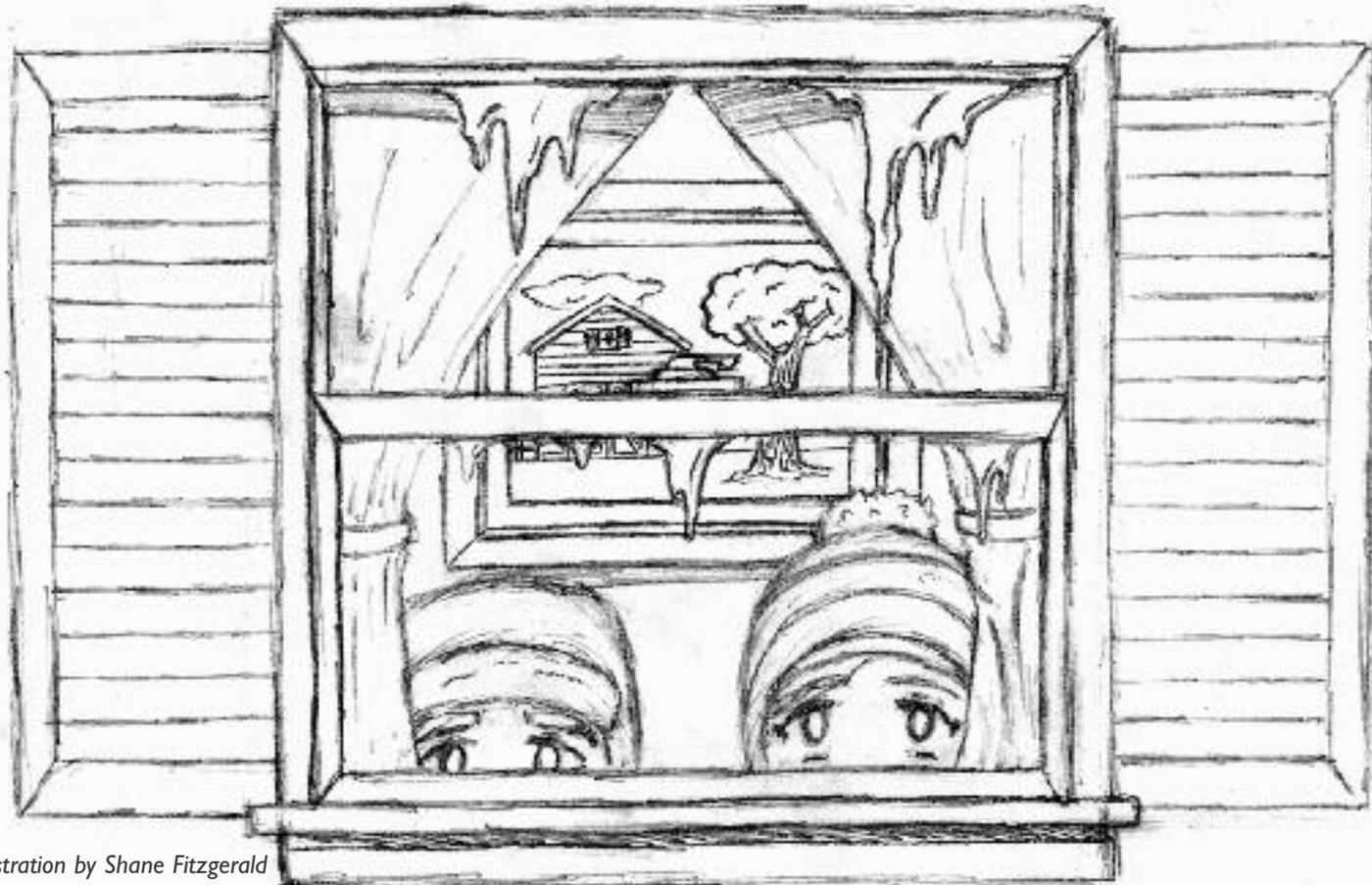


Illustration by Shane Fitzgerald

Please check our website for additional games and coloring. If you have any riddles, games, or articles you would like published on our website, please email them to: pfitzgerald@royalarcanum.com.

In order to publish a Junior Puzzle Winner's name and age, a consent form must be filled out. Forms can be printed from the RA website or sent from the Home Office.

JUNIOR CONTEST RULES

Our rules provide that a Junior can win only one prize per issue of the Bulletin.

Members from the same family can submit answers to same puzzles in order to win.

Puzzle entrants are restricted to Juniors no older than 17 years 11 months. All entries must be received prior to distribution of the next Bulletin.

All Junior entrants can earn a \$10.00 gift certificate from Amazon.com!



award from the Royal Arcanum

Junior Must Submit:

Name

Age

Council

Email Address

**PLEASE SEND ALL ANSWERS TO:
JUNIOR DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARCANUM,
61 BATTERYMARCH ST., BOSTON, MA 02110-3208**

JUNIOR PUZZLE

HOW MANY DR. SUESS BOOKS CAN YOU NAME? FILL IN THE BLANKS.

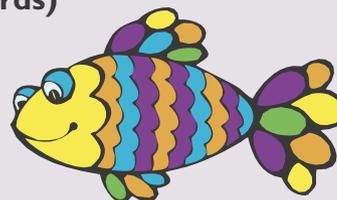
1. THE _____ IN THE HAT

2. _____ EGGS AND _____



3. HOW THE _____ CHRISTMAS

4. ONE FISH, _____, _____, _____ (6 words)



5. _____ HEARS A WHO

6. HOP ON _____

7. AND TO THINK THAT I SAW IT ON _____ (2 words)

8. THE _____

9. BARTHOLOMEW AND THE _____

10. OH THE _____ YOU'LL GO

11. THE _____ BATTLE BOOK

12. MR. _____ CAN _____

13. FOX IN _____

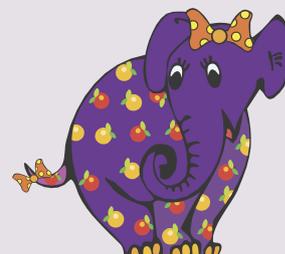


14. MARVIN K. MOONEY _____ (5 words)

15. HORTON HATCHES _____

16. IF I RAN THE _____

17. IF I RAN THE _____ (different title, please)



18. 500 HATS OF _____ (2 words)

19. THE KING'S _____

20. THIDWICK THE BIG HEARTED _____

CLAREMONT COUNCIL JUNIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 7, 2014, Claremont Council held its annual Junior Christmas Party at Juliano's Caterers in New Rochelle. Thirty-nine adults and twenty-eight children attended. The hot buffet table was filled with lots of food for the main course. For dessert, there was a decorate-your-own-ice cream station and all sorts of cookies.

A clown magician entertained the children with games, music, magic tricks, and balloons. Our special Santa (played by Fred DiBartolo) presented the Juniors with delightful gifts purchased and wrapped by our Grand Regent, Maria Bettina DiBartolo. Santa additionally presented the children with the gifts that the Supreme Council sent from Boston. A random raffle also awarded one boy and one girl with a monetary prize donated by Claremont Council. The adults also had a special drawing with four winners announced. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful afternoon and the Grand Regent wished all a wonderful holiday season.

The New York Grand Council also held its annual Holiday Party at Juliano's on the sunny afternoon of December 14, 2014. Seventy-five members and guests were present to celebrate the holiday season. The cocktail hour appetizers and the food were delicious. The DJ played music that kept everyone dancing all afternoon. We had our customary special show to entertain the members. Everyone left with a complimentary bottle of wine donated by the Grand Regent.



The Juniors being well entertained.



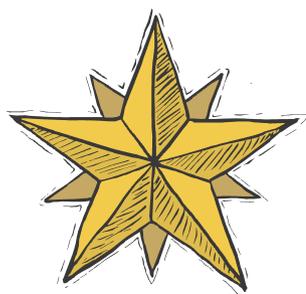
Santa (Fred DiBartolo) with some of the Juniors



Juniors enjoying the party.

Submitted by Errica Conforto

NEW YEAR'S CHEER



Versatility Regent Evelyn Magarban, Past Regent Marie Baranowski, Bayonne Regent John Baranowski and Deputy

Supreme Regent Gen Macon, on behalf of their Councils, recently visited the Felician Campus in Lodi, New Jersey.

The Arcanian fraternalists will be volunteering with the Friends of Saint Francis at the start of this year in support of a program for underprivileged children.



A DIFFERENT KIND OF CHRISTMAS FOR INTEGRITY AND THEIR JUNIORS

The holiday project began with a desire to create a Christmas party experience for Juniors that would be a little bit different, one that would emphasize giving rather than getting. It was decided that Integrity Council and their Juniors would go to a residence sponsored by the United Methodist Church where the elderly receive all kinds of care, medically and socially, called SIMPSON HOUSE.



Herb Snyder reads *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

Making note of the talent and resources right there in our own Council, it was decided that the visitation to Simpson House on Saturday afternoon, December 6, 2014, would take the form of a party with entertainment. The facility offered to provide eggnog and cookies.



Residents of Simpson House listen to the violinist play Christmas music

What kinds of gifts could be given? We were told to plan for eighty people! Giving these people a lot of sweets would probably not be the best idea. It was finally decided that nativity scenes and gingerbread men would be made for each attendee. Lillie Mae Panichelli, Antoinette Malone, Peter Ferrara, and Herb Snyder gathered at Herb Snyder's condo and made over eighty nativity scenes and gingerbread men; no easy task, but lots of fun.

The guests at Simpson House really enjoyed the party, especially when we would pause for the Juniors to go through the hall to give the residents the many gifts, created and bought. The instant "bonding" between the "young" and the "old" was beautiful to see.

Entertainment took the form of a skit entitled "Revenge at Bethlehem," a vocal rendition of "I Wonder as I Wander" and another of "Let There Be Peace on Earth," an absolutely superb violinist, a presentation of "How The Grinch Stole Christmas," caroling led by Jay Newlin accompanied by his mother, Carole Newlin, and lots of laughs and happy conversations.

As everything concluded, all the members of Integrity Council, especially the Juniors, felt so good from the giving rather than the receiving. On the way out our Juniors were surprised to receive a Christmas gift from the Royal Arcanum.

by Dr. Herb Snyder

Members of Integrity Council and Juniors at Simpson House



ANNUITIES

Current Members Get 3.5% First Year Rate*

Non Members Get 3% First Year Rate*



**Tax-Deferred
Until
Withdrawal**

**No Service
Charges**

Saving for Income in
Retirement

**\$500
Minimum
Deposit**

**6-Year
Declining
Surrender
Charge**

**10% Penalty Free
Annual Withdrawal Available****

For complete information on annuities, please contact the Home Office at 1-888-ARCANUM (272-2686).

Discover the value of a member-based fraternal benefit society.

*Rate subject to change without notice. Canadian rates may differ from US rates. We will never go lower than 2%.

**Please contact a tax professional prior to taking any withdrawals for potential tax liabilities.

OHIO WELCOMES THE SUPREME REGENT

On Saturday, December 13, 2014, the Grand Council of Ohio welcomed Supreme Regent Carl Krzystofczyk and his wife Christine to Ohio. This lunch meeting was at Ruby Tuesdays in Streetsboro and was attended by members and prospects of the Ohio Grand Council.



Eugene Bonness, Supreme Regent Carl, Ralph Bonness, Lek Bonness, Diane Calain and Grand Regent Dave Simpson.

It was exciting to see Carl and Christine and to hear about changes and new ideas coming from the Supreme Council. Due to modern technology, Carl was able to present the program that was presented at the Supreme Council Session in Charlotte. The only change was the screen was considerably smaller, but still the message got to all that were there. Carl then answered questions, thus giving us all a better understanding of what he was telling us.



From left to right, Marsha Simpson (Food Service Mgr. at Community Skilled and Deputy Supreme Regent of Ohio) Activities Director, Tracy Spade; Grand Regent David Simpson (retired nurse from Community Skilled) Mr. Roger Reynolds, Facility Director; Dianne Kropp, Activity Assistant; and Diane Calain, Supreme Trustee Chairman.

In keeping with Carl's program of service projects, following the presentation, all present helped prepare "socks of love" for Community Skilled Health Care Centre in Warren, Ohio. This creation started with a pair of Christmas-style nonskid socks. A tube of lip balm and a tube of lotion/skin cream were folded within the socks. It was great to see all members receive

a purple baseball cap to wear as a reminder to "pay it forward".

This project was organized by Republic Council of Warren and was co-sponsored by the Grand Council. The request for matching funds is being applied for and the matching funds will also be donated to the activity fund of the nursing home and assisted living facility. Deputy Supreme Regent Marsha Simpson is Food Service Director at Community Skilled, and Grand Regent Dave Simpson is a retired nurse from there. They were the ones that activated this project and made all of the arrangements. Diane Calain and Plant Industrial Advertising made arrangements for getting the socks.

That evening Carl and Christine and Marsha and Dave were pleased to attend a Christmas concert presented by the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra at Severance Centre in Cleveland which is the home of the Cleveland Orchestra.

The following week, Marsha, Dave and Diane made the presentation to Community Skilled.

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR EVERYONE



Typically when you buy a new computer, it comes with all the essentials, including a trial or one-year subscription to anti-virus software. After the trial is over, you may automatically continue to pay for that offering every year.

However, there are free open source software solutions like Free AVG that allows non-commercial users to be protected for no expense. AVG does offer upgrades for expanded protection, which comes at a cost, but the free solution does a nice job.

Both paid and free solutions have value, but take the time to evaluate both choices.



**ROYAL ARCANUM 2015 MINI-VACATION
 COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG
 JULY 26 – JULY 30, 2015
 WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA**



<http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/stay/williamsburg-woodlands/>

Come join us at the Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel

**Cost per person
 U.S. / Canadian**

\$430.00/\$495.00
 \$715.00/\$820.00
 \$330.00/\$380.00

**Occupancy
STANDARD ROOM**

Double
 Single
 Third person

**Points for Free Trip
 U.S. / Canadian**

614 / 707
 1021 / 1171
 471 / 543

\$490.00/\$560.00
 \$855.00/\$980.00
 \$375.00/\$430.00

SUITE

Double
 Single
 Third person

700 / 800
 1221 / 1400
 536 / 614

SEE ROOM DESCRIPTION BELOW.

Please enter my reservation for the 2015 Royal Arcanum Mini-Vacation at the Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel, 105 Visitor Center Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

My party will consist of the following persons: (type or print only)

M _____ Council No. _____

Address _____

Spouse (please enter first name) _____

Children (enter names & ages) _____

Room Type (circle) Standard Suite

Have you earned a prize trip? Yes No No. of trips _____

Package includes: Free Deluxe Continental Breakfast daily, Dinner and Hospitality Party Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Farewell Theme Party will be "Star Spangled Salute – From Colonial Times Till Today." Complimentary Internet access in all rooms, Free Parking, Miniature Golf, Picnic area, Outdoor pool, Splash Park for kids, Table Tennis, Coin Operated Laundry, Free Shuttle Service around the perimeter of the Revolutionary City.

Standard Guestroom consists of two double beds and a refrigerator.

Suite consists of two rooms with a King bed and Queen sleeper sofa, refrigerator and microwave oven.

Arrangements for members who wish to extend their hotel stay in Williamsburg (if rooms are available) can be made for an additional charge.

Arrival date _____ Departure Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

IMPORTANT: Home address of individuals with different names must be supplied. Guest rooms will be available after 3 pm on Sunday, July 26, 2015; Departures will be on Thursday, July 30, 2015. A Deposit of \$50.00 is required with each reservation.

Historic Area-Exhibit Passes will be purchased by Royal Arcanum and provided at no charge to attendees who are registered for the mini vacation.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ROYAL ARCANUM

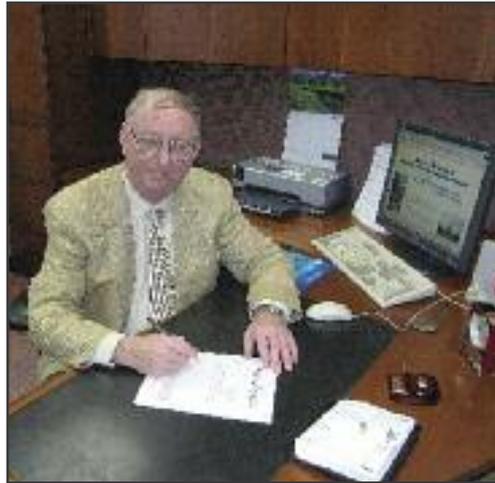
Mail to Supreme Treasurer John Crisanti

Royal Arcanum, 61 Batterymarch Street, Boston, MA 02110

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 1, 2015 – NO EXCEPTIONS!!

A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Seeing the latest news headlines, I wondered why the President was getting such low polling numbers for his performance, so I decided to look at the Gallup, Harris and other polls to find out if this was something unusual. Statistics show that in 1975 the President's poll ratings were at 52%. I was curious about other major institutions and how their ratings may have changed. The chart below reveals the comparison of 1975 and 2014 (as of June 2014), with not all the changes for the better.



why during regular business hours, the Home Office phones are answered by our employees. I think most people become frustrated when calling a company and being prompted to press umpteen buttons to reach someone, only to be disconnected! Companies might find it cost-effective to eliminate a person answering the phone but we don't agree!

I'm disappointed to see in the polling results that, in the eyes of our citizens, a favorable view of our

It's also surprising to learn that Congress gets a lower rating than the President. Over the past 40 years, a long erosion of confidence or trust has occurred in a number of our major institutions and is reflected in public opinion polls. Even though the polls are disappointing, I am happy to see that the military and small businesses hold the number one and two spots for favorability.

public school system has eroded to 26% today from 62% in 1975. Many people now favor Charter schools, paid with public funds, as an alternative to our current public education system, where the classes are smaller, the school day is longer and the teachers are not part of the traditional school system. Students in these schools have improved their test scores considerably. Royal Arcanum is a strong supporter of education, as shown by our superb college scholarship awards, grants and educational loans for qualified members.

GALLUP POLLING RESULTS

	1975	2014
Congress	40	7
Big Business	34	21
Organized labor	36	22
Public schools	62	26
Presidency	52	29
Medical system	80	34
Organized religion	68	45
Military	67	74
Small business	n/a	62

We offer quality insurance and annuity products. Call the Home Office to receive one of our colorful and enlightening brochures, or visit www.royalarcanum.com. You can also reach our website by using our QR Code in our Royal Arcanum Bulletin.

These figures are striking and certainly should prompt debate over the causes and possible solutions to the declines in confidence in many of society's major institutions.

I invite you to start making your summer vacation plans and consider joining us at our Mini-Vacation in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, from



Sunday July 26 through Thursday July 30, 2015. See reservation form on page 34.

Since becoming the Supreme Secretary of the Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum in 1998, I have worked diligently to ensure that our Society earns the trust of our members and the broader public. Trust is not automatic; it must be won and then vigilantly shielded from erosion.

Fraternally,

At Royal Arcanum, which is similar to a small business, our employees care about doing the right thing; providing service to our members promptly and attentively. It's important to try to make a good first impression. That's

Kenneth J. Kolek
Supreme Secretary

2015 MINI-VACATION COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel - 105 Visitor Center Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185

*Historic Jamestown
Colonial Williamsburg
Busch Gardens
York River State Park*

*Discovery Park
Yorktown Battlefield
Yorktown Victory Center
Berkeley Plantation*

Sunday July 26, 2015 through Thursday July 30, 2015

