



# The Compass

John A. Hill Council 4955 / Chartered 1960

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July / August 2026

### 2026 - 2027 COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

CHAPLAIN Rev. Sahayanathan Nathan..... 954-943-3684  
 GRAND KNIGHT David Rouchard.....754-224-1402  
 DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT Mathew Donohue.....646-668-0943  
 CHANCELLOR Ivan Ramirez Villanueva.....954-464-9969  
 RECORDER JJ Bowman..... 561-843-7373  
 TREASURER Michael Charles..... 803-312-2302  
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY Christopher Long, PGK.....941-993-9147  
 ADVOCATE Kenton Hajdik..... 954-214-1326  
 WARDEN Mike Ganesh.....954-829-7921  
 INSIDE GUARD Andre Wangard..... 262-337-1831  
 OUTSIDE GUARD Joao Almeida.....954-655-9660  
 OUTSIDE GUARD Kurt Kohler ..... 954-415-8308  
 LECTURER Andre Wangard..... 262-337-1831  
 1-YEAR TRUSTEE Don Macejko, PGK..... 330-506-7500  
 2-YEAR TRUSTEE Ralph Amato, PGK.....954-650-4610  
 3-YEAR TRUSTEE John Yardley, PGK..... 954-798-8596  
 COMMUNITY DIRECTOR Guy DeJohn.....954-612-0680  
 COUNCIL HISTORIAN Rev. Martin Dunne III, PGK.....954-242-0880  
 FAITH DIRECTOR Rev. Mr. Jerry McGuinn..... 954-821-5782

FAMILY DIRECTOR Kyle Riebel ..... 954-552-7559  
 LIFE DIRECTOR Peter Assumma.....914-589-5830  
 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR Ivan Ramirez Villanueva.....954-464-9969  
 PROGRAMS DIRECTOR Mathew Donohue.....646-668-0943  
**PARISH ROUNDTABLE COORDINATORS**  
 ASSUMPTION Brian Sullivan..... 602-750-2507  
 ST. AMBROSE Christopher Long, PGK.....941-993-9147  
 ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY David Rouchard..... 754-224-1402  
 ST. GABRIEL David Rouchard.....754-224-1402  
 ST. HENRY Tomas Vazquez..... 954-687-2108  
 ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE Ernesto Gonzalez.....954-703-0314  
 OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA John Yardley, PGK.....954-798-8596  
 OUR LADY OF MERCY Joao Almeida.....954-655-9660  
 OUR LADY OF THE SIGN Rev. Martin R. Vavrak.....954-429-0056  
**EDWARD A. O'NEIL ASSEMBLY 1534**  
 FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR David Miller.....954-574-7943  
**DISTRICT 71**  
 DISTRICT DEPUTY John Yardley, PGK, PFN.....954-798-8596

### PAST GRAND KNIGHTS

1960 Louis Georgen +	1974 Edward Millar +	1988 Jim Salisbury +	2002 Tom Miller +	2016 Donald W. Macejko
1961 John A. Hill +	1975 Earl Sloane +	1989 Richard A. Fetchik Sr.	2003 Ray Peglow +	2017 Miguel Dorante Ramia
1962 Edward A. O'Neil +	1976 James W. Cupp +	1990 Dave Kacprowicz	2004 Martin Gabriel +	2018 Kyle D. Riebel
1963 Walter A. Millar +	1977 Jack Spanola +	1991 Dave Teitz +	2005 Don Scalzo +	2019 Terence M. Sheen
1964 Thomas Brown +	1978 Charles Schramm	1992 Jack Chadwick +	2006 Charles Monteforte Jr. +	2020 John G. Yardley
1965 Robert Dugdale +	1979 James Zilai +	1993 John Papetti +	2007 Martin Dunne III	2021 John G. Yardley
1966 Fred Lassiter +	1980 Jose Vales +	1994 Frank Ricciardelli +	2008 Charles Monteforte Jr.+	2022 John G. Yardley
1967 John Bussen +	1981 Frank Braun +	1995 Raymond Drew	2009 Daniel Davis +	2023 Ralph Amato
1968 Steve Santa Lucia +	1982 Rocco Bochetto +	1996 Walter Kuhn +	2010 Leon Lacroix +	2024 Ralph Amato
1969 Robert Sorrelle +	1983 Edward Joncas +	1997 Tom Miller +	2011 Daniel Davis +	2025 Christopher Long
1970 Joseph Massarella +	1984 Raymond Gauthier +	1998 Mack Courson +	2012 Daniel Davis +	
1971 Albert Vincent +	1985 George Vargo +	1999 Donald Tomlin +	2013 Daniel Davis +	
1972 Ed Gross +	1986 Thomas Armento +	2000 Prospero "Nick" Pavia +	2014 Leon Lacroix +	
1973 Eugene Ciotoli +	1987 Richard Chisholm +	2001 Gerald Sherlock +	2015 William W. Whiting	

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 JOHN A. HILL COUNCIL 4955

Knights of Columbus 4955  
 St. Gabriel Parish  
 731 N. Ocean Blvd.  
 Pompano Beach, FL 33062  
*Dated Material*  
*Please Rush!*

# Grand Knight reports record donations at year's end

Brother Knights,

As we close the books on our fiscal year ended June 30, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on our accomplishments and look ahead to the exciting opportunities before us. This is an important time of transition for Council 4955, and your engagement is essential as we prepare for the 2026–2027



fraternal year, and we continue the great progress under the leadership of our Past Grand Knight Chris Long, and before him the men who have served our council with passion and love.

We are developing our budget and calendar for the upcoming year, and we need your input. Our strength as a Council comes from the collective ideas, talents and commitment of our members. Please take the time to share your thoughts on programs, charitable efforts and activities so we can continue to grow and serve our parishes and community effectively.

This transition also brings us to a bittersweet moment as we extend our heartfelt congratulations to our retiring Financial Secretary Bill Whiting, whose final day in this vital role will be June 30. For more than 13 years, Bill has served our council with dedication, professionalism and unwavering commitment. Alongside his wife Susan, Bill has helped shape Council 4955 into one of the most respected and successful councils in the state. Their contributions have been extraordinary, and we offer our deepest gratitude for their service and leadership.

We also are proud to share outstanding news from the 2026 State Convention, which was attended by myself, our Past Grand Knight Chris Long and District Deputy John Yardley. Council 4955 was honored with two prestigious awards, reflecting the remarkable efforts of our members.

First, we received **Second Place in the Publicity Activities Award (Large Council Category)**. This recognition is a direct result of Bill Whiting's exceptional work in keeping our council informed and engaged through our newsletter, parish bulletin updates and consistent communication with both active and retired members. His dedication to communication has strengthened our fraternity and kept us connected in meaningful ways.

Second, we earned **First Place in Total Donations to Local Recipients**, with an incredible total of \$176,483 at the time of submission — the highest amount in the entire state of Florida. This achievement is truly something to celebrate. Included in this total is \$120,000 from the Juliet T. Cardillo Trust, carefully managed by Susan Whiting and directed to Our Father's House Food Pantry.

Even without this extraordinary bequest, our council would still have led the state with more than \$56,000 in donations to local churches and charities. This speaks volumes about the generosity and commitment of every brother in our Council. You should all be very proud of what we have accomplished together.

Finally, I encourage you to review the list of our 2026–2027 officers included in this newsletter, along with our Round

## 2025-26 Council 4955 Donations

Church: Assumption  
Church: Our Lady of Czestochowa  
Church: Our Lady of Mercy  
Church: Our Lady of the Sign  
Church: St. Ambrose  
Church: St. Elizabeth of Hungary  
Church: St. Henry  
Church: St. Gabriel  
Church: St. Paul the Apostle  
Disabilities Drive: ARC Broward  
Disabilities Drive: B-PAN Warriors Foundation  
Disabilities Drive: Broward Children's Center  
Disabilities Drive: Equine Assisted Therapies  
Disabilities Drive: Florida Special Olympics  
Faith in Action: Gesture of Water Pilgrimage  
Food for Poor: Our Father's House Food Pantry  
Food for Poor: St. Gabriel St. Vincent de Paul  
Life: ADOM Respect Life Ministry  
Prayer: Mass Intentions  
Scholarships: 5 @ St. Coleman, Cardinal Gibbons  
Vocations: KofC Military Chaplains Fund  
Vocations: RSVP 3 Seminarian Grants  
**TOTAL \$176,483**

## Notice: Final edition

After 66 years of publication, this edition of our newsletter will be the final printed version. As we look to the future, the Council newsletter will continue to be published every two months — now distributed conveniently by email in PDF format, which members can easily read electronically or print at home.

We invite all members, friends and patrons of the Council to send us their updated email address so you can continue receiving the newsletter and stay connected with the activities and events of our Council.

Please send your current email information to [kofc4955@yahoo.com](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com).

Thank you for your continued support and readership throughout the years!

Table Coordinators. These dedicated men serve on the front lines at our parishes, working closely with pastors and pastoral councils, and bringing back valuable insight on how we can best support our church communities.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Council 4955. Together, we will build upon this strong foundation and continue to make a meaningful difference.

**Vivat Jesus! Grand Knight Dave Rouchard**

# Mission of defunct Squires remains relevant

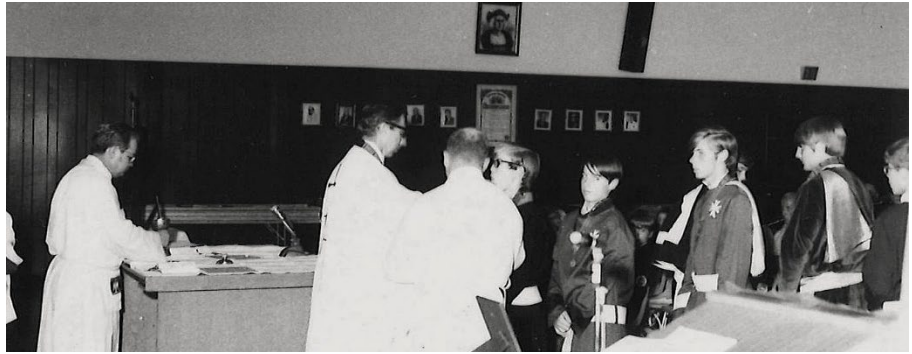
By July 1, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council decreed that The Squires can no longer exist. Cultural changes anticipated this moment decades before, and there were only two active circles left in Florida at the time of the decree. But at one time, many councils had them, including ours.

Simply put, Squires were the official Knights for the high-schooler. For decades, the Squires were not only seen as the best means to gain new members, but also preparing them for the mission of the Order so they were ready and eager to be active, effective Knights immediately upon their 18th birthday.

Shortly after its own charter, 4955 established St. Aloysius Circle No. 1631 in 1962. For about a decade, 4955's Circle was a textbook example showing the potential of this organization through achieving many admirable projects in their own right, while being a reliable source of new members towards 4955's rapid growth into the largest council in Florida by 1975.

But, as remains the problem with all youth groups, if new members are not introduced and new leaders not trained, the organization dies within four years. By the 1970s, this was the case, and the circle existed only on paper.

As a high school freshman in 1994, I was asked by GK Frank Ricciardelli to come to the hall on various Saturday evenings to plan for the reactivation of 4955's Squires Circle. Every time I arrived, he was too busy to talk. But it wasn't a loss. What I observed in the



Columbian Squires Installation Mass in our newly-completed hall, 1969.



Investiture Ceremony November 18, 2015



Councils 3080 and 4955 welcomed Squires at Cardinal Gibbons High in 2015.

works he and others were doing each visit was nothing short of inspirational, on top of hearing and seeing from earliest childhood many other examples of 4955's greatness. Between that and the overwhelming welcome and hospitality I received each time, I became motivated to get involved as

much as someone under 18 could be.

Although the Squires no longer exist, their goal of welcoming, inspiring, preparing and motivating future Knights will remain as important as ever.

**Rev. Martin Dunne III, PGK  
Council Historian**

## 2026 Council Disabilities Drive nets \$17,912 for five local charities

Council 4955's annual Disabilities Drive January through April raised \$17,912 from donors at six parishes. The drive resulted in donations to five charities in support of people with intellectual disabilities:

- \$3,978 ARC of Broward Alzheimer's Support Group.
- \$3,978 BPAN Warriors Foundation Medical Research Support.
- \$3,978 Broward Children's Center.

- \$3,978 Equine Assisted Therapies of South Florida.
- \$2,000 Special Olympics Florida, Sallarulo Race for Champions.

The drive was chaired by Guy DeJohn and Don Macejko. It's the council's longest-running annual charity initiative – formerly Tootsie Roll Drive -- made possible by the support of our pastors and their generous parishioners: Rev. Lazarus Govin (Assumption), Rev.

Paul VI Karenga (Our Lady of Mercy), Rev. Dariusz Zarebsky (St. Ambrose), Rev. Jean Jadotte (St. Elizabeth of Hungary), Rev. Sahayanathan Nathan (St. Gabriel) and Very Rev. Willie Dever (St. Paul the Apostle).

Volunteers included: Ralph Amato, Peter Assumma, Mike Charles, Robert Chisholm, Matt Donohue, Ed Fee, Matt Flynn, Mike Ganesh, Ernesto Gonzalez, Jeff Graham, Kurt

Kohler, Chris Long, Paul Ludwick, John Marcinka, Kyle Riebel, David Rouchard, Ron Sacco, Ken Staab, Mike Tarr, John Yardley and Jose Zambrano.

### COLLECTIONS

LOCATION	AMOUNT
2025 Carryover	\$2,576
Assumption	\$1,306
Online	\$3,107
Our Lady of Mercy	\$797
St. Ambrose	\$5,179
St. Elizabeth	\$1,127
St. Gabriel	\$1,387
St. Paul	\$2,433
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,912</b>

## Calendar of events

Join our monthly Rosary devotion to Mary Mother Guardian of the Faith at 5:30 p.m. before our membership meetings. Refreshments and fellowship follow. Visit [kofc4955.com](http://kofc4955.com) for events reservations.

JULY			
Mon	7/6/26	6:30 PM	Officers Meet @ St. Gabriel
Mon	7/13/26	6:30 PM	Council Meet @ St. Paul the Apostle Parish Hall
Wkd	7/25-26/26		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
July 1 Report of Chosen Officers due			
July 13 Organizational Meet to approve goals, budget, calendar			
AUGUST			
Mon	8/3/26	6:30 PM	Officers Meet / Audit
Mon	8/10/26	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Thu	8/13/26		Blessed McGivney Feast
Sat	8/15/26		Assumption Feast
Sat	8/22/26	TBA?	Barbecue @ St. Gabriel
Sun	8/23/26		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Wed	8/26/26		Our Lady of Czestochowa Feast
August 1 Service Program Personnel Report due			
August 15 Audit due			
Retention / Engagement Committee contacts unpaid members			

## In our prayers

**Our dead:** Margaret Hays.

**For healing:** Trish Macejko, Rev. Anthony Mulderry, Bernard McLaughlin, Marian and Richard Fetchik, Chris Maccio, Mike Tarr, Kurt Kohler, Steve Cole, Dan Falvey, Rev. Kenneth D. Whittaker, Larry Martin, Tomas Vazquez, Roger Harris, Vincent Casale, Beverly Cunningham, Joseph D'Jay, Bill Farrington, Mark Ardis, Joseph Smith, James Walker.

+

If you know a member who needs help, is ill, or has passed away, contact Chris Long, 941-993-9147, or email [kofc4955@yahoo.com](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com).

**Local Shirt Vendor:** Council 4955 red golf shirts \$37 (plus \$12 shipping option) at Boca Color Graphics, 139 NW Third Street, Boca Raton, FL 33432; 561-391-2229 or email [amy@bocacolorgraphics.com](mailto:amy@bocacolorgraphics.com).

**Veterans:** For help with questions on your benefits, contact Don Macejko, PGK, 330-506-7500.

**Dues:** Annual dues notices will be emailed in June, due July 1.

### PATRONS

Brent J. Andersen  
Peter Assumma  
Gerald J. Brenc  
John Brogan  
Edward Butler  
Michael C. Caroccia  
Michael Charles  
Randy Chisholm  
Christopher M. Courson  
Daniel M. Courson  
Joseph W. Curran  
Mark L. Dachsteiner  
Charles P. Davis Jr.  
Robert Daw

Nino De Rosa  
John DiPompeo Jr.  
Elmer S. Dewey  
Matthew Donohue  
Rev. Martin Dunne III  
PGK  
Dr. David J. Erdman  
Edmund F. Fee  
Marian Fetchik  
Richard Fetchik Sr.  
PGK  
Richard Fetchik Jr.  
Matthew Flynn Sr.  
Victor Garcia  
Michael Garelli

Eli Ghazel  
Jeff Graham  
Joseph Greco Jr.  
Kenton Hajdic  
Rev. Paul VI Karenga  
Kurt Kohler  
Charles E. Long Jr.  
Chris Maccio  
James McDavitt Sr.  
James P. Mc Lane  
James W. McNeal  
David Miller  
Ralph Natale  
Albert Ott

Rev. Mr. Charles W. Parlee Jr.  
George Patterson  
Robert E. Payeur  
Steven R. Payeur  
Kyle Riebel PGK  
Charles J. Roach  
Dennis M. Romanelli  
David Rouchard  
Gordon S. Scott  
June & Hank Schoepp  
Jeremiah T. Sheehan  
Timothy A. Sheehan Sr.  
Rev. Joseph R. Sileo  
Michael J. Stock

Kenneth Staab  
Daniel White PGK  
Bill Whiting PGK  
John Wohlford  
Daniel Woronkiewicz  
Rev. Stanley F. Wulinski

### MEMORIALS

Daniel Davis PGK  
Joseph Dziminski Jr.  
Leon Lacroix PGK  
Charles Monteforte Jr.  
PGK  
Beth Schoepp  
Steve Schoepp

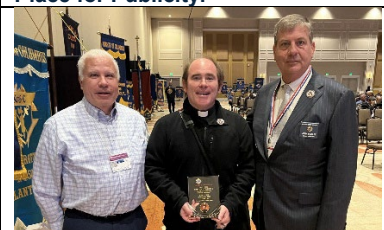
## Council 4955 honored at convention



GK Long and DD Yardley received First Place for Donations.



DGK Rouchard, GK Long and DD Yardley receive Second Place for Publicity.



GK Long and DD Yardley greet PGK Fr. Marty Dunne, now pastor at Holy Redeemer Church in Palm City.



DGK Rouchard paraded council banner with nearly 1,000 Knights in attendance.

**New officers elected:** The following members were elected as officers for the 2026-27 fraternal year, beginning July 1: Grand Knight David Rouchard, Deputy Grand Knight Matt Donohue, Treasurer Mike Charles, Chancellor Ivan (Danny) Ramirez Villanueva, Advocate Kenton Hajdik, Recorder J.J. Bowman, Warden Mike Ganesh, Inside Guard Andre Wangard, Outside Guard Joao Almeida, Outside Guard Kurt Kohler, 3 Year Trustee John Yardley, 2 Year Trustee Ralph Amato, 1 Year Trustee Don Macejko.