



# The Compass

John A. Hill Council 4955 / Chartered 1960

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[www.kofc4955.com](http://www.kofc4955.com)

March / April 2025

## 2024 - 2025 COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

CHAPLAIN Rev. Sahayanathan Nathan..... 954-943-3684  
GRAND KNIGHT Ralph Amato, PGK.....954-650-4610  
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT Christopher Long.....941-993-9147  
CHANCELLOR Mathew Donohue.....646-668-0943  
RECORDER Robert Daw..... 954-899-5571  
TREASURER Michael Charles..... 803-312-2302  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY Bill Whiting, PGK..... 954-481-6902  
ADVOCATE Kenton Hajdic..... 954-214-1326  
WARDEN Mike Tarr ..... 845-793-0957  
INSIDE GUARD Steve Cole.....917-690-4165  
INSIDE GUARD David Miller .....786-251-4828  
INSIDE GUARD Jose Zambrano .....954-348-2225  
OUTSIDE GUARD Michael Byrant..... 954-304-7145  
OUTSIDE GUARD Kurt Kohler ..... 954-415-8308  
OUTSIDE GUARD Tomas Vazquez..... 954-687-2108  
1-YEAR TRUSTEE Richard Fetchik, PGK..... 561-963-6966  
2-YEAR TRUSTEE John Yardley, PGK..... 954-798-8596  
3-YEAR TRUSTEE Don Macejko, PGK..... 330-506-7500  
LECTURER Frank Laverty..... 702-339-2501  
INSURANCE AGENT Deacon Benny Matos..... 561-619-3050  
COMMUNITY DIRECTOR Kenton Hajdic..... 954-214-1326

COUNCIL HISTORIAN Rev. Martin Dunne III, PGK.....954-242-0880  
FAMILY DIRECTOR Kyle Riebel ..... 954-552-7559  
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR Mathew Donohue.....917-715-7751  
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR Christopher Long..... 941-993-9147  
RESPECT LIFE DIRECTOR Steve Foley..... 954-695-3944

## PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

ASSUMPTION John Yardley, PGK..... 954-798-8596  
ST. AMBROSE Bill Whiting, PGK..... 954-481-6902  
ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY David Rouchard..... 754-224-1402  
ST. GABRIEL Ralph Amato, PGK..... 954-650-4610  
ST. HENRY Tomas Vazquez..... 954-687-2108  
ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE Jeffrey Graham.....954-520-4213  
OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA Rev. Hubert Zasada.....954-798-8596  
OUR LADY OF MERCY Mike Tarr ..... 845-793-0957  
OUR LADY OF THE SIGN Rev. Martin Vavrak.....954-429-0056

## JOHN A. HILL COLUMBIETTES AUXILIARY 4955

PRESIDENT Patricia Macejko.....330-718-3959

## EDWARD A. O'NEIL ASSEMBLY 1534

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR Don Barnett, PFN..... 954-279-3229

## DISTRICT 71

DISTRICT DEPUTY John Yardley, PGK, PFN..... 954-798-8596

## PAST GRAND KNIGHTS

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

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Frignights of Columbus 4955  
St Gabriel Parish  
731 N. Ocean Boulevard  
Pompano Beach, FL 33062

## Candidates invited to stand for election on May ballot

Candidates interested in running for council offices at the May 12 meeting should contact members of the Nominating Committee, including Chris Long, Bill Whiting and John Yardley, by March 31. Only Third Degree members qualify. The following positions will be on the ballot:

**Grand Knight** – Presides over council meetings, ex-officio member of all committees, appoints membership and program directors, lecturer, committees, convenes officers for monthly meeting, ensures reports are submitted to state and Supreme Council; aware of council's financial status and signs all checks.

**Deputy Grand Knight** – Assists grand knight with council affairs; presides at council meetings in absence of grand knight; chairman of retention committee.

**Chancellor** – Assists grand knight and deputy grand knight, oversees council in their absence; charged with strengthening members' interests in council activities, chairman of admission committee.

**Recorder** – Maintains record of all council actions and correspondence.

**Treasurer** – Maintains records of all council funds and accounts; deposits money into council's accounts and provides certificate of such monies to the grand knight; also pays expenses.

**Advocate** – Legal representative of council, serves as council's attorney at trials and investigations; does not need to be legal professional, but should be familiar with council bylaws, the Order's Charter, Constitution and Laws, Methods of Conducting a Council Meeting and Robert's Rules of Order.

**Warden** – Watchdog for council property and degree paraphernalia, responsible for setting up council chambers for meetings and ceremonials.

**Inside and Outside Guards** – Outside guard admits visitors and members to inner door. The inside guard checks to make sure that membership cards are current.

**Trustee** – Three members elected by council, plus grand knight, who serves as chairman of board; oversee work of financial secretary and treasurer, and with deputy grand knight serve on retention committee.



**Council Lecturer Frank Laverty helped collect Disabilities Drive donations at St. Ambrose Church January 26.**

## 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. Contact parish representatives to help with Disabilities Drive collections – our biggest fundraiser.

FEBRUARY			
Wkd	2/22-23/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Thu	2/27/25	8 AM	Silver Rose @ St. Elizabeth
Thu	2/27/25	11 AM	Silver Rose @ St. Ambrose
MARCH			
Wkd	3/1-2/25		Disabilities Drive @ St. Elizabeth
Mon	3/3/25	6:30 PM	Officers Meet / Scholarship Applications Due
Wed	3/5/25		Ash Wednesday
Wkd	3/8-9/24		Disabilities Drive @ St. Gabriel
Mon	3/10/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Sat	3/15/25	6 PM	St. Patrick Dinner Dance w/ MOSA @ St. Ambrose
Wkd	3/15-16/25		Disabilities Drive @ Assumption
Mon	3/17/25		St. Patrick Feast
Wed	3/19/25		St. Joseph Feast
Wkd	3/22-23/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Sat	3/29/25	4:30 PM	Corporate Communion @ St. Paul the Apostle; Founders Day
APRIL			
Mon	4/1/25	6:30 PM	Officers Meet
Mon	4/8/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Sun	4/20/25		Easter
Wkd	4/26-27/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses

## In our prayers

**Our dead:** Marcia Rose

**For healing:** Kurt Kohler, Michael Bryant, Steve Cole, Dan Falvey, Rev. Kenneth D. Whittaker, Frank Laverty, Larry Martin, Tomas Vazquez, Roger Harris, Vincent Casale, Jeff and Paula Graham, PGK Chuck and Mary Monteforte, Lynn White, Beverly Cunningham, Joseph D'Jay, Bill Farrington, Mark Ardis, Margaret Hays, Joseph Smith, James Walker.

**If you know a member who needs help**, is ill, or has passed away, contact Bill Whiting, 561-368-6531, or email [kofc4955@yahoo.com](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com).

**Council Shirts:** Our local vendor is retiring, so we're negotiating for a new supplier. Send suggestions to [kofc4955@yahoo.com](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com).

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

## Congratulations Deacon Benny

Our council field agent, Deacon Benny Matos, has been named Agent of the Year. He has transferred to Council 4955.

A retired helicopter pilot for the New Jersey Highway Patrol, Deacon Benny flew with brother Knight Anthony Marinello on rescue flights to Haiti last year at the height of gang violence.



# *Anniversaries inspire, motivate to achieve more*

April 25th marks 4955's 65th Anniversary.

Although people predicted the council would close right after our 40th, we not only held-on but we built on the legacy of our past ... we continued to move the mountains that have helped countless lives and souls.

Through the decades, our anniversaries were opportunities not only to have huge celebrations with numerous dignitaries, but -- even more importantly -- to reflect upon the past in order to discern how to become even better for the future.

Below are some "words of wisdom" from Anniversary Celebrations Past:

- **50th Anniversary (2010):** "[The Council] is basically about people ... [earning] three Century Club awards [netting 100 new members in one year]. One of my personal points of pride the year I served as Grand Knight is we took in 180 new members." -- **Jim Cupp, PGK, PFN, PSD, FM**
- **40th Anniversary (2000):** "We were very active, but we have not been able to recruit the young help that we had at that time. Maybe, with God's help we can turn that around." -- **Walt Millar, PGK, PFN, FDD, FSS**
- **35th Anniversary (1995):** "Remember always, you are not the best because you are the biggest, but you are the biggest because you are the best." -- **Gary McLain, PGK, PFN, FDD, PSD, FM, FVSM**
- **25th Anniversary (1985):** "We had become [Florida's] largest Council [in 1975] ... We also believe that we have the distinction of being the best council in the state. Hardly a day goes by that we are not called upon to give advice." -- **Bob Dugdale, PGK, PFN, FDD**
- **10th Anniversary (1970):** "It is seldom that one is fortunate enough ... to see that the spirit of cooperation and self-sacrifice has infused this council and influenced its rapid growth ... that this spirit will endure many more years in the future." -- **Bob Sorelle, PGK, FDD**
- **1st Anniversary (1961):** "We had reason to 'count our blessings,' which was the theme of Msgr. Edward J. Ahearn, at



**Grand Knight Louis Georgen accepts 4955's Charter at Silver Thatch Inn (now Silver Thatch Atlantic Plaza) in 1960.**

our first Corporate Communion" -- **Lou Georgen, Charter GK**

The common theme of the last two-thirds century is membership. Without new members, a council is doomed within a matter of years. With new dedicated members, we'll continue to build on past successes far into the future.

*Tempus Fugit!*

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

**Scholarship applications are due by March 3** for review by the Scholarship Committee. The Council offers scholarships for the children of Knights attending Catholic schools: \$250 for elementary grades, \$500 for high school students. Email Bill Whiting at [kofc4955@yahoo.com](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com) for an application.

**The KofC Silver Rose Pilgrimage** comes to St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church for the 8 a.m. Mass Thursday, February 27, and St. Ambrose Church for the 10:30 a.m. Rosary and Mass.

The devotion is open to all and promoted by Council 4955 to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe and the sanctity of human life.

The journey of the Silver Rose begins each year in February and ends on December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. During that time, Silver Roses travel from town to town along eight routes throughout North America.

"As we think in terms of One Life, One Rose, it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through St. Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses," said Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society."



**Zambrano brothers Jose Enrique and Jose Ignacio were recognized as KofC scholarship winners at the January meeting. Both attend Cardinal Gibbons High School.**





**Knights hosted A Night in Napoli Italian Dinner and Dance at Our Lady of Mercy Februry 1. It was a sellout that generated \$3,000 for the parish.**



#### **PATRONS**

Ralph Amato  
Brent J. Anderson  
Kenneth J. Arena  
Robert J. Bonner  
John Brogan  
Edward O. Butler  
Michael Caroccia  
Michael Caruso  
Vincent Casale  
Michael Charles  
Randy Chisholm  
Robert P. Chisholm  
Steven Cole  
Chris Comerford  
James F. Crissy  
Joseph W. Curran  
Jeremy J. Darden

Charles P. Davis Jr.  
Robert J. Daw  
Orlando M. De Araujo  
Guy DeJohn  
Clair E. Deller  
Angelo DelPozzo Jr.  
Dante A. DelPozzo  
Nino De Rosa  
Gerard DeSapio  
Elmer S. Dewey  
John DiPompeo Jr.  
Matthew P. Donohue  
Miguel Dorante Ramia PGK  
Ray Drew PGK  
Neil C. Duffy  
William E. Duffy  
Ryan Dunahoo  
Rev. Martin Dunne III PGK  
Patrick S. Dunne  
David J. Erdman  
Edmond Fee  
Marian Fetchik  
Richard Fetchik Sr. PGK  
Richard Fetchik Jr.  
Matthew Fynn Sr.  
Vince Fiorenza  
Vincent P. Fiorenza  
Nathan Fiorenza  
Carl Fischer  
Victor Garcia  
William H. Gargin  
Eli Ghazel  
James P. Glass  
Jeffrey Graham  
Kenton Hajdic  
Michael Karol

Rev. Bernard Kirlin  
John Kohler  
Steve J. Kutschynski  
Frank Laverty  
Dr. William Limperis  
Charles E. Long Jr.  
Christopher Long  
Donald W. Macejko PGK  
John Marcinka  
Deacon Jerry T. McGuinn  
John M. McKeon  
James P. McLane  
Bernard McLaughlin  
Rev. Anthony Mulderrey  
Ralph Natale  
James S. Olsen  
George J. O'Neil Jr.  
Gregory A. Park

Joseph Patchen  
Daniel S. Payeur  
Steven R. Payeur  
Mark Petratis  
Charles J. Roach  
Allen Romanelli  
Harvey F. Rowe  
David T. Rouchard  
Gordon S. Scott  
Ernesto Sengeti  
David Sepe  
Michael J. Stock  
John Sullivan  
Paul F. Ternes  
June & Hank Schoepp  
Jeremiah T. Sheehan  
Sherwood Sheehan Jr.  
Timothy Sheehan

Ken Staab  
Brian D. Sullivan Sr.  
Daniel P. White II, PGK  
Bill Whiting PGK  
Rev. Stanley Wulinski  
Rev. Hubert Zasada

#### **MEMORIALS**

Charles Cavolina  
Daniel Davis PGK  
Joseph Dziminski Jr.  
John Herbert Hays  
Leon Lacroix PGK  
Beth Schoepp