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 Sergeant At Arms – Ken Prince

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Saint Ann Club
 16 HENDRICKS AVENUE

Mother of Mary, Inc.
 NORWALK, CT 06851



JAN - FEB - MAR - 2017

DISPATCH NEWS

WWW.STANNCLUB.ORG

ST ANN NEWSLETTER JAN FEB MAR 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

As this is my last correspondence as President, I want to sincerely thank those of you who have genuinely embraced the spirit and efforts put forth over the past two years. It was my goal to grow St. Ann's significance and presence in our community. We demonstrated an ability to bring new events into our club thereby giving many an opportunity to experience what many of us already know. . . the St. Ann Club can make a positive difference in people's lives.

My hope is that these efforts continue to strengthen but it needs not just a few people stepping up to the challenge but all of us collectively recognizing the impact we can make on others. The St. Ann Club can be mighty when all of us pull together.

Once again, from the bottom of my heart, I want to express my sincere gratitude to those of you supported our initiatives. May all of you celebrate a joyous Christmas season and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous new year! Sal Fratino

Sal Fratino

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT

First and foremost, to all members and their families, Merry Christmas and a very prosperous and healthy New Year. I would like to applaud the outgoing President for a job well done, his leadership and attachment to the club will be remembered. Without any doubt "Sals" heart and soul was deeply felt for the for the good and welfare of the club. "Grazie Salvatore"

The challenges of the New Year will require: unity, hard work and the will to succeed. I count again on your sense of responsibility and love for St Ann (of which I have no doubt) to achieve this goal. For any suggestions, problems or concerns, talk to me. I am always available. Remember Unity is Strength; Strength is awareness of Result; Result is Final Purpose. Let us all work for this purpose, with much pride and full satisfaction, of complete and concrete results.

Thank You.
 Nicandro Cappuccia

A MESSAGE FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

As we approach this Christmas season, I am taking time to reflect on what a successful year it has been and I want to say "thank you" to all of you, our valued members. Whether you peel potatoes, set a table, serve at a dinner or chair an event, you show your dedication and support. I appreciate your commitment to the Club and enjoy working with all of you to continue making St. Ann a pillar of the Norwalk community.

The merriest Christmas to all of you and remember. . . .happiness keeps you sweet, trials make you strong, sorrows make you humble, success keeps you glowing and God keeps you going. May you have a wonderful 2017!

Camille Andreozzi

JANUARY 4TH JOINT MEETING 8:00 PLEASE ATTEND

JANUARY

1 Happy New Year
 4 Joint Meeting 8:00
 5 Game Dinner 7:30
 7 Karaoke Returns 7:00
 11 Painting and Vino
 Contact Tony Cappuccia
 203 515 7706
 14 Bluewater band
 19 Ladies Dinner 7:30
 21 Music of Chris Merwin
 25 Mens Dinner 7:30
 28 Leigh Henry band

FEBRUARY

1 Mens Meeting 8:00
 2 Ladies Meeting 6:45
 Guest Speaker - Dr. N. Polifroni
 4 DJ Dom
 5 Super Bowl Party
 11 Valentine's dance. \$35. Full dinner.
 Dreamin Band Call Tony 515 7706
 16 Ladies Dinner 7:30
 18 To be determined
 22 Mens Dinner 7:30
 25 Outside Chance Band

MARCH

1 Mens Meeting 8:00
 2 Ladies Meeting 7:30
 4 DJ Dom
 11 Karaoke
 16 Ladies Dinner 7:30
 18 St Patricks Dance
 Butch Barbella and Streets of
 Bronx Band return
 Our first ever St Patrick's dance. \$35
 Call Tony 203 515 7706
 29 Mens Dinner 7:30

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THOUGHTS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS

I heard the bells on Christmas Day. Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

And so the good news was told to shepherds, to working men who were toiling in the fields. The coming King would hallow the common work of man, and in His love and grace all the problems of labor would find a solution.

The Lord of the Christmas-tide throws a halo over common toil. Even Christian people have not all learnt the significance of the angels’ visit to the lonely shepherds. Some of us can see the light resting upon a bishop’s crosier, but we cannot see the radiance on the ordinary shepherd’s staff. We can discern the hallowedness of a priest’s vocation, but we see no sanctity in the calling of the grocer, or of the scavenger in the street. We can see the nimbus on the few, but not on the crowd; on the unusual, but not on the commonplace. But the very birth-hour of Christianity irradiated the humble doings of humble people. When the angels went to the shepherds, common work was encircled with an immortal crown. — John Henry Jowett

Christmas is for children. But it is for grown-ups, too. Even if it is a headache, a chore, and nightmare, it is aperiod of necessary defrosting of chill and hide-bound hearts. — Lenora Mattingly Weber

At Christmastime, children play an essential part in our celebrations. So much of what we do is intended to please them--and all the while our hearts keep hearkening back to the Christmas memories of our own childhoods. On Christmas Eve, sometimes we can’t help but envy our children the stars in their eyes, especially when our own eyes are dull with exhaustion.

Christmas is so much simpler for a child. Can we open our tired, adult eyes to that same simplicity? — Ellen Sanna

The Art of Keeping Christmas

How can we best keep Christmas? How can we best defeat the little bit of Scrooge in all of us and experience the glory of the Great Day?

By sinking the shafts of our spirits deep beneath the sparkling tinsel of the surface of Christmas and renewing within us the radiance of the inner meaning of the season.

By following the Star on an inward journey to Bethlehem to stand again in awe and wonder before the Babe in a Manger.

By rediscovering the faith and simplicity of a little child, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

By being still and listening to the angels sing within our hearts.

By quietly evaluating our lives according to the Master’s standards as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.

By reaffirming the supremacy of the spirit in our conquest of ourselves.

By rededicating ourselves to the Master’s ideals of Peace, Brotherhood, and Good Will.

By resolving to give ourselves away to others in love, joy and devotion.

By using the light of Christmas to guide us through the darkness of the coming year, refusing to go back to the dim kerosene lamps of the spirit when the brilliant electricity of Christmas is available to show us the way.

— Wilfred A. Peterson

I hear you are willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellow-people are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness--are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas. — Henry van Dyke

Is Santa Claus Real? 13 Unique Facts About Christmas Traditions

Thanksgiving has passed and now many are preparing for Christmas. While some are singing “Deck the Halls,” putting up a tree, making lists for Santa and watching seasonal movies, there are facts about the “most wonderful time of the year” that everyone might not know. Unique facts about the December holiday have been gathered below.

- Santa Claus is one of the most beloved figures for many Christians. Santa, who goes by names such as Kris Kringle, St. Nicholas and Father Christmas, was known to be a man who was generous, especially to children, back in fourth century Myra, which is where Turkey is located now, All Things Christmas wrote. St. Nicholas became known throughout Europe and eventually became the patron saint of Russia. He reportedly had a long white beard and a red cape. His legend of generosity continued in Holland. The Dutch spelt his name Sint Nikolaas, which eventually led to “Sinterklaas,” and ultimately Santa Claus emerged when the Dutch came to America in the 17th century.
- It’s believed that Germans used dyed goose feathers to create the first Christmas tree. They also used to be decorated with roses, apples and different colored paper. Martin Luther was the first to put lights on the tree after he was inspired by the starlight reflecting off trees, All Things Christmas wrote. Electric Christmas lights were first used in 1895. The Christmas tree became popular in the U.S. after Germans immigrated in the late 19th century.
- Christmas trees, which usually take 15 years to grow, have been sold in the U.S. since 1850. But back in 1912, people would not have seen one in the White House. President Theodore Roosevelt, who was a devout environmentalist, forbid them.
- The Christmas card originally appeared in England as a way for students to practice their handwriting. Sir Henry Cole apparently created the first Christmas card since he was too busy to write an individual note to every loved one in 1843. Today, more than 3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. every year.
- Christmas did not become a federal holiday until 1870. Alabama was the first state to declare it a legal holiday in 1836.

- Rudolph’s red nose might have been caused by a parasitic infection of his respiratory system.
- “Jingle Bells” was originally named “One Horse Open Sleigh” when it was written by James Pierpont in 1857.
- Christmas was not celebrated on Dec. 25 as the birth of Christ until 350 A.D.
- Naughty children getting coal in their stockings is a tradition that started in Italy.
- The Christmas colors red, green and gold all have meaning. Red represents the blood of Christ, green represents rebirth and gold represents royalty and light.
- The tallest Christmas tree was cut down in Seattle in 1950 and stood 221-feet tall.
- When all the gifts in the “Twelve Days of Christmas” are added up, it equals 364 presents.
- X means Christ in Greek, which is why Christmas is shortened to X-mas sometimes.

HERE ARE SOME INTERESTING TIDBITS ABOUT NEW YEARS

• The first New Year’s celebration dates back 4,000 years. Julius Caesar, the emperor of Rome, was the first to declare Jan. 1 a national holiday. He named the month after Janus, the Roman god of doors and gates. Janus had two faces, one looking forward and one looking back. Caesar felt that a month named after this god would be fitting.

• Forty-five percent of Americans make New Year’s resolutions. The top resolutions are: to lose weight, get organized, to spend less and save more, to stay fit and healthy, and to quit smoking. While nearly half of all Americans make resolutions, 25 percent of them give up on their resolutions by the second week of January.

• Be sure to eat leafy greens on New Year’s. Tradition says that the more leafy greens a person eats, the more prosperity he or she will experience (what an incentive for staying healthy!). Tradition also says that legumes bring prosperity because beans and peas look like coins. No wonder why so many people eat black eyed peas on Jan. 1.

• Many people ring in New Year’s by popping open a bottle of champagne. Americans drink close to 360 million glasses of sparkling wine during this time. The bubbly stuff dates back to the 17th century, when the cork was invented.

• About 1 million people gather in New York City’s Times Square to watch the ball drop. The Times Square New Year’s Eve ball drop came about because of a ban on fireworks. The first ball in 1907 was 700 pounds and was lit with 100 25-watt lights. The current ball puts the old one to shame (thanks to technology). Today, it is covered in 2,688 crystals, is lit by 32,000 LED lights, weighs 11,875 pounds and is 12 feet in diameter.

• Remember the last scene in When Harry Met Sally, when Harry references a song after he and Sally kiss? It wasAuld Lang Syne, a song traditionally sung at the end of New Year’s parties. Poet Robert Burns wrote it in 1788. Though most people do not know the words to Auld Lang Syne, the overall message is that people have to remember their loved ones, dead or alive, and keep them close in their hearts.

• If Santa is the most common symbol associated with Christmas, then Baby New Year is the symbol most commonly associated with...you guessed it, New Year’s! Baby New Year is often seen in a diaper, black top hat, and a sash showing the numbers of the new year. Myth states that he matures into an old man during the year.

• Make sure to be surrounded by family or loved ones on New Year’s Eve. The first person you come across in the new year could set the tone for the next 12 months. This applies to couples, as well. If a couple celebrating New Year’s together does not kiss, the future of the relationship might be splitsville, so be sure to lay one on your significant other.

• At the Mummers Parade in Philadelphia, 10,000 participants step through City Hall and perform in unique costumes. The parade dates back to mid-17th-century, incorporating elements from Irish, German, English, Swedish and other European heritages. The parade itself is divided into five divisions: a comic division, wench brigades, fancy division, string bands, and fancy bridges. If you are in the area for New Year’s, be sure to check out this event.

• According to statistics from the National Insurance Crime Bureau, vehicles are stolen on New Year’s Day more than any other holiday. Don’t think your old car is safe, either. In 2011, the 1994 Honda Accord was the most stolen car. To discourage car theft, make sure your car is in a populated area and always take your keys.

SATURDAY NIGHT FUN

As many of you know Tony Cappuccia has been in charge of providing entertainment for Saturday night at the club. My wife and I attend many of the events and I must tell you that it’s a great time. There are live bands that play great music, sometimes a D.J. and there will soon be a return of Karaoke. Tony is always on the lookout for new and exciting entertainment. Remember you may bring your own food and snacks or order in from a variety local restaurants that will deliver right to your table. So when you are looking for something to do on a Saturday night call your friends and come on down!

WATER DAMAGE AND REPAIRS

There recently was a malfunction of the sprinkler system at the club and of all places it happened over the bar area. Electrical repairs were done by Cappuccia Electric, new floor tiles were installed by Patrick Mobilio and company, sheetrock was repaired by Joe Valiante Jr. and bar refinishing provided by Rinaldo Delorio. We wish to extend our thanks to these men and all others who had a hand in this effort.

NEW CARPET INSTALLED

New carpet has been installed at the club and there is an issue with the quality of the seams and we are working to resolve the problem. stay tuned for further details.

GAME DINNER

This years Game Dinner will be held on Thursday January 5. The tickets are \$40.00 and if you wish to attend contact Joe Valiante at 203 644 2290.

LADIES NEW MEMBERS	DATE	SPONSOR
Sonia Iamicel	11/03/16	Carolyn Shannahan
Lorraine Russo	11/03/16	Ellen Marrucci
Cheryl Scicchitano	11/03/16	Maria Scicchitano

MENS NEW MEMBERS

Charles Pia Sworn in November 2, 2016 men’s meeting. Sponsored by Kenny Prince

MEN’S LIFE MEMBERS FOR 2017

Graham MacIntyre, Larry Mappa, Tony Marna, John Piro, and John Romano

PLEASE READ

Any one wishing to contribute to this newsletter is encouraged to do so. Please contact Eric Fleisch at 847-7669 or by e-mail at BIGE101@ optonline.net. The next edition will be sent on or about December 30th 2016.

SICK OR HOSPITALIZED MEMBERS

If you know any member that is sick or hospitalized please bring it to the attention of the Board of Directors or Eric Fleisch at 203 847 7669. For the ladies contact Barbara Antonelli at (203) 866-3953. A gift basket and card will be sent. If anyone knows of an Auxiliary member who has been permanently placed in a nursing home please contact Betty Brink with the information at (203) 847-8133. We would like to keep in touch with them by sending a card.