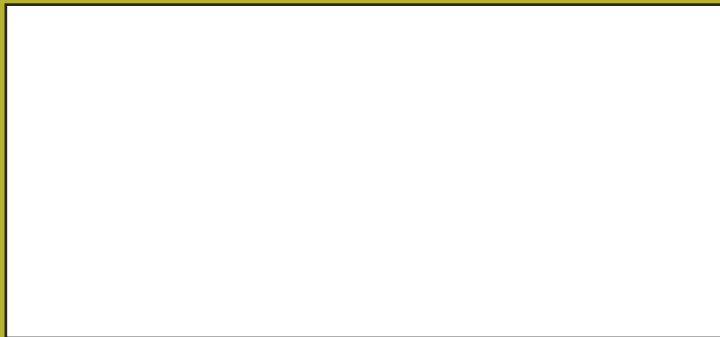


Bulletin



Summer Edition

2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



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

.....
**Fraternal Services to Our
Members Since 1877**

A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Régente Suprême

Maria Bettina DiBartolo - Supreme Regent



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Summer is here! I hope you are enjoying the warm weather...whether you stay local or travel, make the most of the long, beautiful days! Take time to sit back and relax, stroll through the park, or stay at the beach until sunset – whatever you do, enjoy it to the fullest!

I take this opportunity to congratulate our Junior scholarship winners, a.k.a. the future of the Royal Arcanum and wish them the best in all that they do!

The Supreme Council elected new officers for the 2024-2026 term at the 106th Session in Baltimore in July. It is my hope that everyone will strive for the continued growth of the Society by enrolling new members and becoming more involved in their councils.

I thank everyone for their support during these past two years and appreciate the sincerity shown to me by the members at my visitations. Everyone's efforts to planning the events made each of my presentations successful and memorable.

A special thank you goes to our Home Office associates and Fraternal Field Director Cindy Macon, for their innovative programming and initiatives to keep our members engaged with charitable projects and activities, including the successful collaborative Buddy Program!

Once more, I thank the Executive Committee, senior managers, officers, members, family, and friends – all of you have supported me and helped my campaign successfully lead the Royal Arcanum **Into the Future!**

Sincerely yours in V.M.C.,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Bettina DiBartolo".

Maria-Bettina DiBartolo
Supreme Regent

Chers frères et sœurs,

L'été est là! J'espère que vous profitez du beau temps... que vous restiez sur place ou en voyage, profitez au maximum des longues et belles journées ! Prenez le temps de vous asseoir et de vous détendre, de vous promener dans le parc ou de rester à la plage jusqu'au coucher du soleil – quoi que vous fassiez, profitez-en au maximum !

J'en profite pour féliciter nos boursiers Junior, alias l'avenir du Royal Arcanum et leur souhaite le meilleur dans tout ce qu'ils entreprennent !

Le Conseil suprême a élu de nouveaux dirigeants pour le mandat 2024-2026 lors de la 106e session à Baltimore en juillet. J'espère que chacun s'efforcera de poursuivre la croissance de la Société en inscrivant de nouveaux membres et en s'impliquant davantage dans ses conseils.

Je remercie tout le monde pour leur soutien au cours de ces deux dernières années et apprécie la sincérité dont m'ont fait preuve les membres lors de mes visites. Les efforts de chacun pour planifier les événements ont rendu chacune de mes présentations réussie et mémorable.

Un merci spécial à nos associés du ministère de l'Intérieur et à la directrice du Fraternal Field, Cindy Macon, pour leur programmation et leurs initiatives innovantes visant à maintenir l'engagement de nos membres dans des projets et des activités caritatifs, y compris le succès du programme de collaboration Buddy !

Une fois de plus, je remercie le comité exécutif, les cadres supérieurs, les officiers, les membres, la famille et les amis – vous m'avez tous soutenu et aidé ma campagne à mener avec succès Royal Arcanum **vers le futur !**

Cordialement vôtre en V.M.C.,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maria Bettina DiBartolo".

Maria Bettina Di Bartolo
Régent suprême

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Bulletin Deadline

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Recently, my family and I got to cross one item off of the bucket list - we went to Costa Rica. My dream has always been to photograph wildlife there and I am thrilled that it finally happened. Costa Rica is renowned for its incredible biodiversity, which is one of the richest in the world given its relatively small size. Here are some highlights of the wildlife diversity you can find in Costa Rica:

Birds: Costa Rica is a birdwatcher's paradise, with over 900 bird species recorded, including toucans, scarlet macaws, quetzals, and hummingbirds. Birdwatching can be enjoyed in various habitats from cloud forests to coastal areas.



Mammals: The country is home to diverse mammalian species, ranging from the elusive jaguar and puma to sloths, monkeys (howler, spider, and capuchin), anteaters, tapirs, and several species of bats.



Reptiles and

Amphibians: Costa Rica boasts a rich herpetofauna, including iconic species like green iguanas, various species of frogs (such as the colorful poison dart frogs), caimans, crocodiles, and several species of sea turtles that nest on its beaches.

Insects and Arachnids: The country hosts a staggering number of insects and arachnids, many of which are incredibly diverse and colorful. This includes butterflies (Costa Rica is home to around 1,250 butterfly species), beetles, spiders, and more.

Marine Life: Costa Rica's Pacific and Caribbean coastlines offer opportunities to encounter diverse marine life, including whales, dolphins, sharks, rays, and a variety of colorful fish and coral species for snorkelers and divers.



Unique Species: Costa Rica is also known for its unique species that are endemic to the region, such as the golden toad (though now believed to be extinct), the resplendent quetzal (found in cloud forests), and various species of frogs and insects found nowhere else.



Due to its commitment to conservation and protected areas,

Costa Rica provides ample opportunities for wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers to experience this breathtaking diversity in a variety of habitats, from dense rainforests to coastal mangroves and volcanic landscapes.

Whether or not your dream is to also shoot wildlife in a place like this, Costa Rica is amazing for many other reasons and it is a trip you and your family will never forget.



*Submitted by:
Patrick Fitzgerald*

ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

**Royal Arcanum awarded \$60,000 in
scholarships and grants in 2024.
Apply today!!**

Our competitive scholarships: based on merit and membership

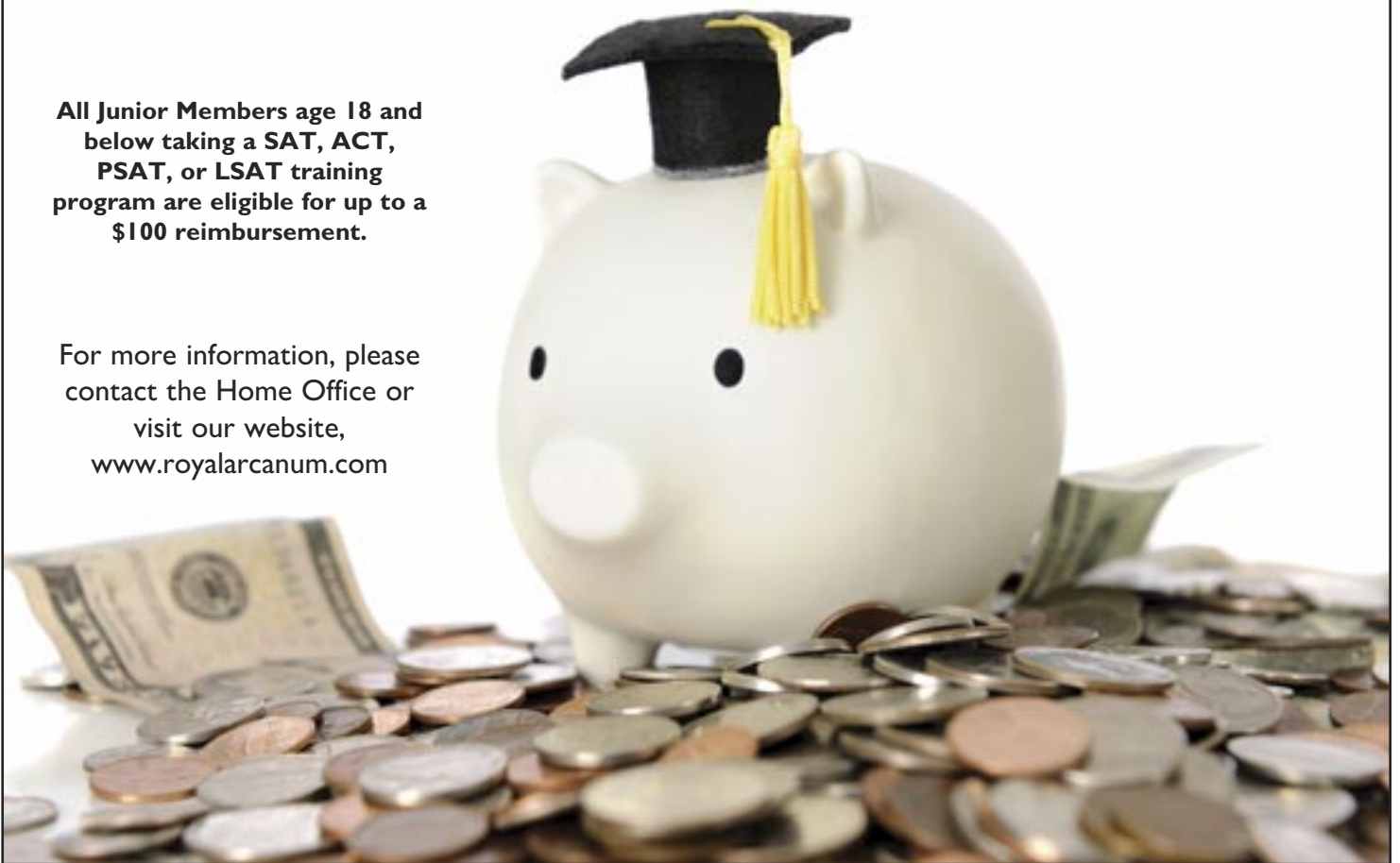
- (Two) \$10,000 scholarships awarded at \$2,500 per year for four years
- (Two) \$8,000 scholarships awarded at \$2,000 per year for four years
- (Two) \$5,000 scholarships awarded at \$1,250 per year for four years
- (Ten) \$2,000 scholarships awarded at \$500 per year for four years

Our noncompetitive college grants: based on membership

- (Six) Continuing Education Grants • \$1,200 each
- (Five) Grants • \$600 each for high school seniors

**All Junior Members age 18 and
below taking a SAT, ACT,
PSAT, or LSAT training
program are eligible for up to a
\$100 reimbursement.**

For more information, please
contact the Home Office or
visit our website,
www.royalarcanum.com



SHOWER OF FRIENDSHIP

The members of Versatility Council #2501 in Bayonne, New Jersey partnered with the Friends of Saint Francis, a volunteer community organization, in hosting a summertime baby shower for the Sisters of Life and their program for newborns. Together, members were happy to start the sunny season by offering gifts to give babies a joy-filled welcome.

The New Jersey Arcanians were happy to be introduced to the sisters through the efforts of their “Buddies” – members in the Bronx and Philadelphia - two locations where the sisters’ convent-care centers are located.



Fraternal Events Committee members Helen, Chris, Diane, and Gen coordinated the project.

An abundance of useful clothing articles, pajamas, bibs, caps, blankets, towels, “Mom” bags, and healthcare items were contributed by members and friends. When learning that in its first year of life a baby uses approximately 2,100 diapers, Versatility and Bayonne Councils were pleased to add a

generous supply of diapers and wet wipes, all to be gifted to the sisters to assist in furthering their mission of service.

The Sisters of Life vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life. They are dedicated to helping the mothers of the unborn, the unborn, new moms and their infants, those who are frail, vulnerable or ill, and those in danger of being put to death. As part of their ministry of service, they offer hope and healing where there is a need. Currently, the sisters are also stationed Washington, D.C., Denver, Phoenix, and Toronto.

The co-sponsored activity was a great project and well-received by its many enthusiastic participants.



Diaper Totes were also gifted for the newborns.

TREASURE FROM OUR PAST

Pictured is a sitting past regent’s pin that was presented to members upon completion of their term as regent of a subordinate council. Designed in 1877, the year the Society was founded, the pin features the image of a star but contains no words or numbers. If asked by someone about the significance of the pin, the member wearing it would have the opportunity to tell them about the Royal Arcanum.



HELPING HANDS FOR UKRAINE



Diane Bajor, artist and honoree

The Supreme Council gratefully acknowledges all of the councils, members, and friends for their ongoing support to our Society's efforts for the Ukrainian people as their homeland remains impacted by an unjust war that has shattered lives and displaced millions. Our fraternal family continues to be a beacon of hope during a tumultuous time and has been especially concerned for the children; lives are being changed forever.



Sunflower painting by Diane Bajor

Royal Arcanum members are extending compassion and support, spiritually and financially to provide assistance for the children's well-being. Monetary donations and parcels filled with new items and other essentials are routinely sent to the Sisters in Poland who are selflessly working to care for youngsters and other family members. Many "Ukrainian guests" are residing in convents until they

can determine their next step ***Into the Future.***

Additional aid is delivered into remote areas of Ukraine where the Sisters help families, the elderly, the injured, and the military. All donations made to the Royal Arcanum projects are directly helping the Ukrainian people.

The Royal Arcanum efforts for Ukraine have been evident in communities across the Supreme Council. Diane Bajor, a member of Versatility Council #2501, New Jersey, is an art teacher in Thorne Middle School in Middletown. Diane's works have been featured in numerous shows and exhibits. Among the awe-inspiring pieces that she created is a magnificent painting of Our Lady of Czestochowa which she donated to O.L. of Mt. Carmel Church in Bayonne, and a stirring image of first responders in the aftermath of the 9/11 tragedy in NYC. A talented artist, Diane's humble spirit and generosity of heart are qualities of a genuine leader. Always willing to volunteer, she is a supportive member of the RA's charitable projects and service initiatives.

Diane was deeply moved after reading a poem written by one of her students, Christina Borsa; in it she shared a poignant reflection of Ukraine – her homeland. Diane then painted a beautiful image of sunflowers – the

national flower of Ukraine – to be presented with Christina's expressive poem. The painting depicts the resilience of the sunflowers and in essence, the unwavering strength of the Ukrainian people; it became a treasured gift, as have many of Diane's works.

The Royal Arcanum congratulates Diane Bajor for receiving the Superintendent's Staff Award for outstanding service to the Middletown Township Public School District in May of this year; a recognition that is a testament of her dedication to her profession and to her students.

A warm "Thank you" is conveyed to everyone for sharing the Society's attributes of "Mercy" and "Charity" as together we remember the Ukrainian people and envision global peace as an everlasting reality for all.

I'm from the land with many fields,
That stretch out for miles.
I'm from a country that's known for its beauty,
And not the money.
I'm from that small old house down the long road,
That small old house passed down to me from
ancestors.
The small old house with miles of fields of barley, corn,
and wheat.

The fields where I played hide-n-seek all day.
The fields where I would help my grandparents plant.
The fields that bloomed with fresh flowers.
The sunflowers, poppies, daisies, and chamomile
colored the fields.
The vibrant colors and the breathtaking scent,
The birds chirping and no one in sight,
Made me believe I was living a dream.

But now, all of it is gone.
These fields of mine,
This home of mine,
All of it is down in flames.
The fields of colors,
Only show red, orange, and yellow,
All the crops burned down to ashes.
The silence is now filled with loud BOOMS!
The long road that now leads to emptiness,
Is shattered; filled with the blood of dying heroes.

I stand in front of this land,
The land where I'm from.
This land I no longer recognize.
And I ask myself,
Will this home of mine
Still be MY home?

By Christina Borsa

TYLER KOLEK DRAFTED BY THE NEW YORK KNICKS

Tyler Kolek, a Royal Arcanum member of Pawtucket Council #537 since he was a one year old, was selected by the New York Knicks of the National Basketball Association in the recent NBA Annual Draft. The last time a player from Rhode Island was selected this high in the draft was in 1974.

Tyler has had an interesting basketball career. After receiving All State Honors at Cumberland High School in Rhode Island, he was enlisted to play basketball for the prestigious St. George's Prep School in Middletown, RI. While at St. George's he received league MVP honors and was awarded the Gatorade Player of the Year award as the best basketball player in RI.

Tyler was then given a scholarship to George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. At George Mason he received the Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Year award. After his coach Dave Paulsen was replaced, Tyler put his name in the transfer portal where coach Shaka Smart recruited him for Marquette University in Milwaukee. While Tyler was a junior at Marquette, his team won the Big East Championship and the Big East Tournament. He was selected as the Big East Player of the Year and



Tyler Kolek, the New York Knick

the Big East Tournament Player of the Year. He also earned All-American honors.

“The Knicks are getting a fierce competitor,” Marquette coach Shaka Smart said. “They are getting a phenomenal passer, a great shooter, a great teammate. He’s someone who I think will fit really well with coach (Tom) Thibodeau’s emphasis on toughness.”

Basketball has long been a family affair in the Kolek family. Kevin Kolek, Tyler’s Dad, was an All State player in high school and played ball in college. Brandon, Tyler’s older brother, excelled in high school basketball, and holds the all time scoring record at

Cumberland High School. Brandon received a basketball scholarship from Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire, graduating in 2022.

Tyler’s parents, Kevin and Lynn Kolek, and his grandparents Ken and Judy Kolek along with his

grandmother, Clarita LePine, are all Royal Arcanum members.



Tyler Kolek and his proud family

Submitted by: Ken Kolek

SPIRIT OF SERVICE AWARD



Donald E. Ferry, Jr.

The Supreme Council Fraternal Department is pleased to announce that Claremont Council #1655 in New York has been named the recipient of the Donald E. Ferry, Jr. Spirit of Service Award.

The award program, in tribute to Brother “Don”, was developed to carry forth his legacy of dedicated service to our fraternal benefit

society. Its purpose is to “See a Need and Take the Lead” in support of a children’s charity or charitable program for the benefit of children.

The members of Claremont Council consistently follow in Donald’s footsteps by endeavoring to be fraternalists-in-action for children’s causes. Their recent efforts were dedicated to St. Theresa’s Food Pantry in the Bronx for its ‘Feeding the Children’ program that provides nutritious food staples for those challenged by food insecurity.

Council members paired their grocery shopping lists with a variety of cereal box purchases. They also rallied for Supreme



Another supply of non-perishable food contributions for the project

Regent Maria DiBartolo’s ‘Cereal Box Campaign’ to help their young neighbors enjoy the any-time-of-day snack **Into the Future**, especially since many of the youth may only have one substantial meal per day.



Joe and Errica Conforto deliver the council’s grocery donations to Msgr. Thomas Derivan and Margie Premiani at St. Theresa’s Church.

Special thanks is extended to Past Supreme Regent Errica and Joe Conforto and the Community Service Committee for organizing the project in memory of Brother Don Ferry, Jr. and for encouraging families and friends to share their blessings with the children. The council received the sincere thanks of Reverend Monsignor Thomas Derivan, Pastor of St. Theresa’s Church and Margie Premiani who represented the Social Concerns Ministry.

SUPREME REGENT IN THE GARDEN STATE

On Sunday, June 30, 2024, thirty-four members of the New Jersey jurisdiction were delighted to welcome Supreme Regent Maria and Freddy DiBartolo and Junior Director Errica and Joe Conforto to the Chandelier Caterers in Bayonne for the presentation of the ***Into the Future*** campaign. It was a wonderful gathering of fraternalists who shared friendship and fellowship while learning more about the products, programs, and benefits of membership in the fraternal benefit society.



William O'Keefe thanks Junior Director Errica Conforto for the RA scholarship award.

Sister DiBartolo enthusiastically spoke about her vision for the continued success of the Royal Arcanum and the key role that members have in introducing family and friends to the Society and applauded their dedication to the fraternal objectives.

Sister Conforto highlighted the wonderful programs that the Royal Arcanum offers for young members. She was happy to present a \$5,000 scholarship certificate to William O'Keefe of Bayonne Council #695 who was one of this year's award recipients. Will thanked the Royal Arcanum for the opportunity to participate in the program and shared his excitement for beginning studies in computer science at Rutgers University.

The Supreme Regent "surprised" New Jersey members for having attained special milestone years in the Order by awarding them RA veteran pins. Elaine Zuber (25), Ruth Richvalsky (30), Carol LaRocca (45), Donna Mincieli-Butto (50), James Richvalsky (50), Paul Zuber (55), and Gen Macon (55) all shared the same sentiment, "Wow! What memories!" Some were former Juniors who now have their children enrolled into the Society.



The Supreme Regent introduces New Jersey's RA veterans.

In support of the charitable segment of the Supreme Regent's campaign, the members organized a gifting project for Ukrainian kindergarten students. In addition to the variety of useful school supplies that were contributed by the attendees, Bayonne and Versatility Councils pledged their support with a donation of 60 backpacks and 60 lunch kits. All of the gifts would be sent for the children in time for the first day of school.

Past Supreme Regent/Fraternal Director Cindy Macon thanked everyone for their generous support of the programs that are conducted on behalf of the Royal Arcanum. Tokens of appreciation were presented to the Supreme Regent and Junior Director, expressed with the gratitude of the New Jerseyites for their leadership, inspiration, and encouragement of council service ***Into the Future***.

The New York and New Jersey jurisdictions (also known as the 'family across the bridge') are teamed with Pennsylvania and California in the Buddy Program. In July and August, they will continue support to the community ministries at Arch Street United Methodist Church in Philadelphia. This initiative has been well-received and members enjoy engaging together for this charitable cause that helps neighbors in need.

Although all good times come to an end, the New Jersey delegation looks forward to having our friends and "family" from New York visit again, as we promote the Royal Arcanum ***Into the Future***, together.



Junior Director Errica Conforto, NY Grand Orator Joe Conforto, Deputy Supreme Regent Gen Macon, Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo, NY Grand Regent Freddy DiBartolo at the *Into the Future* presentation.

PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNALISM

Lillie Mae Panichelli of Integrity Council #586, Pennsylvania, made a donation to the Arch Street Church in Philadelphia for its programs to assist those in need. As she has been doing on a regular basis, Lillie Mae had a trunk full of clothing, blankets, and puzzles as contributions to help the poor, homeless, and hurting.

Programs at the Arch Street Church are the beneficiaries of the Royal Arcanum Buddy Project Team of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and California. Council members in these jurisdictions have generously responded to the activity with contributions of new and gently used clothing and shoes, coats and outerwear, socks, hygiene essentials, totes, and other handy items to help those who are suffering and often seek help at the church.

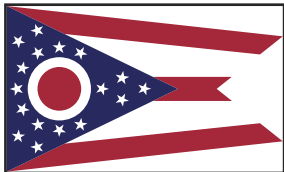


Lillie Mae Panichelli arrives in Philadelphia with donations.

The congregation, in collaboration with its non-profit, The Center – Philadelphia, operates several programs. Grace Café, run by volunteers, is a restaurant-style meal service for the community's most vulnerable residents, neighbors experiencing homelessness, and for those who are hungry. The Wellness Collaborative offers nursing services including blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, wound care, foot baths, and help with scheduling medical appointments. The Daytime Services Program includes a weekday drop-in shelter where showers, laundry, short and long-term case management, food, and other programming are available.

Royal Arcanum members look forward to being buddies **Into the Future** and continue supporting the fine work being done by staff and volunteers for the church's community programs.

MEETING IN OHIO



On May 18, 2024, Supreme Regent Maria and Freddy DiBartolo and Supreme

Secretary Tony Basa were welcomed by Royal Arcanum fraternalists in the jurisdiction of Ohio. Sister Maria was happy to introduce the **Into the Future** campaign to the members and share news of the many programs that the Society offers.

Brother Tony spoke about the permanent life insurance plans and annuities that are available through the Royal Arcanum and made clear the benefits of membership in the fraternal benefit society. He explained that the organization's success for over 146 years is a testament of ongoing service to members and community and encouraged



Participants at the spring meeting in Ohio

those present to welcome friends into the Royal Arcanum family by having them apply for membership.

NEW YORK CELEBRATES

The members of the Grand Council of New York and Claremont Council #1655 participated in council dinner-meetings at San Martino Ristorante in Yonkers during the months of May and June.

In May, the fraternalists were eager to share the good news of their service projects and charitable works that were sponsored during Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo's *Into the Future* campaign. Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto read letters of appreciation from several charitable organization that were beneficiaries of the councils' recent support. As a charitable project that evening, the members participated in a "Baby Bottle Drive" for St. Theresa's Parish in the Bronx, donating \$100 to help volunteer efforts for protecting the unborn and advocating for the elderly and disabled.

To acknowledge two special days that were being celebrated on the calendar, Grand Regent Freddy DiBartolo presented flowers to the ladies for Mother's Day and bottles of cheer for the gentlemen for Father's Day. He thanked all for their involvement in the Grand Council and encouraged their ongoing support to the Royal Arcanum, encouraging them to invite family and friends to enroll as members *Into the Future*.

In addition to June's announcements of fraternal activities being planned, the Installation of Officers for the grand and subordinate councils was conducted after dinner.

The evening concluded with an exchange of good wishes for a pleasant summer season.



Claremont Council Officers for the 2024-2026 term. Caterina Di Franco (5th from left) is the Council Regent.



Mother's Day Appreciation



Father's Day Festivities

NEW JERSEY'S MEMORIAL OBSERVANCES

Members of the New Jersey Grand Council continued their tradition of conducting activities in observance of Memorial Day. Led by Grand Regent Richard Macon, FIC, the Fraternal Service Committee members decorated the graves of Royal Arcanum veterans of the Armed Forces with flags in four cemeteries in the Garden State, a fraternal project that has grown since its inception 15 years ago.



Dayle Vander Sande provided the music and vocals for the liturgy.

The members participated in a Sunday liturgy at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Bayonne, and afterwards hosted an Appreciation Breakfast for veterans and their families. The following day found the Arcanians marching the parade route in Bayonne and applauding the veterans for their untiring service for the cause of freedom.



The Arcanian Breakfast Committee with Officers of the Bayonne Veterans Posts



Gen Macon and Evelyn Magarban coordinated efforts for decorating graves with US flags.

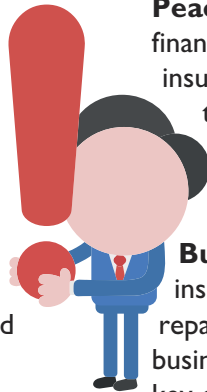
WHY LIFE INSURANCE IS IMPORTANT

Life insurance is important for several key reasons:

Financial Protection for Dependents: If you have dependents such as a spouse, children, or aging parents who rely on your income, life insurance ensures that they are financially supported in case of your untimely death. It provides them with a source of income to cover living expenses, debts, education costs, and other financial needs.

Covering Debts and Expenses: Life insurance can be used to pay off outstanding debts such as mortgages, loans, or credit card balances, relieving your family from financial burdens after your death. It can also cover funeral expenses and estate taxes.

Replacing Lost Income: If your income contributes significantly to your household, life insurance replaces that income to maintain your family's standard of living. This is crucial for ensuring they can continue to meet ongoing expenses and long-term financial goals.



Peace of Mind: Knowing that your loved ones will be financially protected can provide peace of mind. Life insurance can help mitigate the stress and uncertainties that come with thinking about what would happen to your family if you were no longer there to provide for them.

Business Continuity: For business owners, life insurance can be used to fund buy-sell agreements, repay business debts, or provide liquidity to keep the business running smoothly in the event of a partner's or key employee's death.

Estate Planning: Life insurance proceeds can be used to equalize inheritances, provide liquidity for estate taxes, or create an inheritance for heirs where assets may be illiquid or tied up.

Overall, life insurance plays a crucial role in financial planning by ensuring that your loved ones are protected and financially secure even after you're gone. It provides a safety net that can make a significant difference during a difficult time.

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Many of us fondly recall happy memories of past summer vacations and the good times shared during these getaway adventures. Sometimes we were lucky enough to bring home a souvenir that's now a treasure and pleasant reminder of a glorious trip. For me, I remember how excited I was to tour the Alpine countries of Europe.

It was at a clock shop in Geneva, Switzerland where I spied a watchmaker busy at work; his skilled hands were meticulously assembling a beautiful timepiece. There I found my special souvenir – a Swiss wristwatch with edelweiss flowers etched on the face. The watch is now over 30 years old and still running with precision!

I wonder if individuals today are mastering fine crafts such as watchmaking. After all, advances in technology have made things readily available at your fingertips and perhaps the wristwatch may be one of the items fading away. I guess “time” will tell but anyway you analyze it, “time” is vital to everyone.

I can't...I don't have any time. There's no time for me to do it. Sorry...I'm running out of time. These are comments you may hear when people are asked to get involved, join an activity, or participate at an event.

Volunteers are an exceptional group of people who may not have the time but actually *make* the time for a specific cause.

The Royal Arcanum is fortunate to have many spirited members across the Supreme Council jurisdiction who give of their time to advance the cause of fraternal fellowship and demonstrate the Society's mission of volunteer service through charitable works.

The Society is proud to recognize the fine example of fraternalism that officers and members exemplify in community. Through the International Fraternal Service Program, the Supreme Council provides matching funds to charitable projects, up to \$1,000 per council, annually. It's great to report that in the past several months many jurisdictions have sponsored a project. Let's make it a banner year with 100% participation.

Launched in the 4th quarter of 2023, the Buddy Project has four teams of members who are volunteering together with brothers and sisters of other jurisdictions

by promoting the Royal Arcanum with support to a charitable cause. This has been another engaging and well-received initiative that has aided programs for the blind and sight-impaired and the homeless.

Congratulations to Versatility Council #2501 (NJ), the recipient of the Lorraine J. D'Emilio Legacy of Hope Award for their project with special needs children and to



Claremont Council #1655 (NY), the recipient of the Donald E. Ferry Jr. Spirit of Service Award for their project to help hungry children.

The success of any organization can largely be credited to dedicated members who give their time to make good things happen. It is fitting to mention that the time furnished by our members for the Society's growth with enrollments, fraternal events, and charitable

works is exemplary. Since its humble beginnings in Boston, fraternalists have held allegiance to the principles of Virtue, Mercy, and Charity that continue to guide our work.

I congratulate the RA scholarship recipients and wish success to students in all grades as they begin their new studies.

I offer a sincere “Thank you” to Past Supreme Regent Maria DiBartolo for devoting her time to the **Into the Future** campaign. We anticipate striving for continued Society accomplishments as we welcome the newly elected officers.

Enjoy the splendors of the remaining weeks of summer. Time flies. Be sure to make the most of it!

In friendship,

Cindy Macon
Fraternal-Communications Director



20 PayLife

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you stop paying in
20 Years.**

Twenty Payment Life also has a living benefit. The cash value that you build up can be used for emergencies, college for the kids, to pay bills or retirement...either way the choice will be yours!



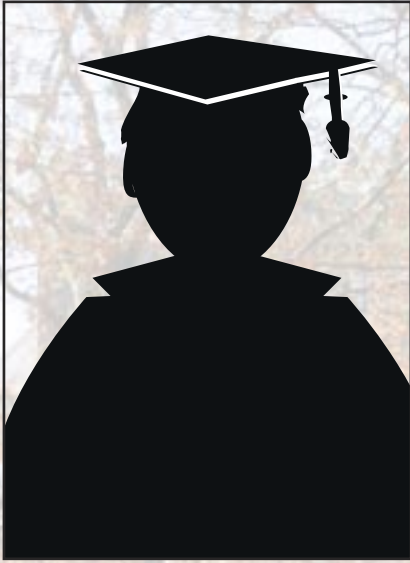
Program Benefits include

Waiver of Premiums¹, and Dividend Eligibility

Contact the Home Office for additional details at 1-888-ARCANUM

¹. Conditions Apply

2024 ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



JOSEPH E. HALLINAN
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Matthew MacDougall
Integrity Council #586

\$10,000



LLOYD E. WILLIAMS
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Katarzyna Tomaszkowicz
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$10,000



Julia Gill
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$8,000

2024 ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Christopher Zawadzki
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$8,000



William O'Keefe
Bayonne Council #695

\$5,000



Charleendale Pare
Group CA #1999

\$5,000

2024 ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Dylan Dratch
Merritt Council #1974

\$2,000



Sofia Torricella
Claremont Council #1655

\$2,000



Ryan McAvoy
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$2,000



Natalia Nowobilska
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$2,000

2024 ROYAL ARCANUM GRANT RECIPIENTS



Collin Gill
Sons of Poland Council #2016

\$1,200



Emma Thompson
Group Colorado #1998

\$1,200



Sara Thompson
Group Colorado #1998

\$1,200



Justin Nader
Bayonne Council #695

\$1,200

GRAND COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN

The Grand Council of Illinois partnered with the Grand Council of Michigan for the Buddy Program. The goal was for each council to

select an organization that helped people with low vision or blindness. In June, eight members of the Grand Council of Illinois visited the Hadley School in Winnetka, Illinois to learn about their work and present a donation.

The Hadley School was founded in 1920 and was originally designed to provide academic support for adult learners. In 2020, during the height of the pandemic, they re-imagined their program after thoughtful and intentional outreach to their learners. They redesigned their program to empower adults with vision loss or blindness to thrive - at home, at work, and in their communities. To date, more than 100,000 people have joined the Hadley community and 98% have found their programming to be helpful.



During the tour, we learned about the many virtual programs that reach beyond the school, including workshops, podcasts, and a peer-to-

peer program. They work with adults virtually all over the world. They also work with medical students and licensed practitioners to educate them in their services with the goal that practitioners will provide patients with meaningful referrals.

For more information on the Hadley School, visit their website: <https://hadleyhelps.org>. We hope this will be very beneficial for any members experiencing vision loss.

*Submitted by:
Lisa Crawford
Grand Regent of Illinois*



PAST BULLETIN ISSUES

<http://royalarcanum.com/bulletins.html>

Visit our website to see past issues of our society's main publication filled with member acts of charity and achievements.

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

The Royal Arcanum congratulates Alexandra Orr of Claremont Council #1655, New York for her recent academic achievements conferred by North Rockland High School in Thiells. Upon completion of her junior year, Alexandra received awards from five National Honor Societies for excellence in math, science, social studies, English, and world languages.

Alexandra was also the recipient of the Rensselaer Medal. Since 1916, the award has been given by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to the most promising juniors who have distinguished themselves in math and science. Medalists who enroll at Rensselaer receive a substantial scholarship throughout their four years. Alexandra has been accepted into the university's premed program.

A 2022 Royal Arcanum Youth of the Year award recipient, Alexandra continues to be active in extracurricular, community, and council volunteer programs. The Royal Arcanum proudly recognizes Alexandra for her scholastic achievements and wishes her success to attain her goals into the future.



CHAMP ON THE MOUND!

Teddy Benoit, age 9, a Junior member of Alpha-Agassiz Council #1, Massachusetts won this year's Plymouth Little League Cy Young Award for being top pitcher in the Minors Division (age 9-11). While playing in Little League and AAU 10U teams this season, Teddy compiled 91 strikeouts over 44 innings. Way to go, Teddy! Congratulations!



CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER CORNER

The summer has brought the warmth of the season, which is certainly welcomed in New England. Every year I'm baffled at how early the stores put back to school items out on display, along with digital advertisements to appeal to shoppers. I'm still looking for some downtime outside of the office. The little league and travel baseball season just ended and now, we are already looking toward school restarting! This year my oldest child will be entering high school, which is hard to believe!! With that being said, I congratulate all of our college scholarship and grant winners! Our scholarship program is one of our most beneficial programs from a benefit side, with scholarships ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000 and grants ranging from \$600 to \$1,200!

Our Home Office associates have been keeping busy with continued increases in new business life insurance

councils. As a Society, we do so much work in the community and it's important to celebrate these efforts and commend our members for their volunteerism. The Bulletin is a perfect way to celebrate our fraternal spirit and accomplishments.

Photographs and articles can be sent to info@royalarcanum.com or mailed to Royal Arcanum - 61 Battery March Street - Boston, MA 02110 - Attention: Bulletin Department.



I hope that you take advantage of our member benefits such as the Royal Perks program, where we've seen a



applications. We saw a record number of applications in the first half of 2024, representing a 5% increase in applications as compared to 2023. I'm pleased to advise that we have sustained our process cycle times, ensuring applications are reviewed and processed within 24 hours of receipt. With the addition of our e-application, some underwriting decisions are made at the point of sale. Digital transformation initiatives have enabled our insurance operation to sustain our competitiveness in the insurance marketplace and we look to continue building upon ways we can operate efficiently. I applaud our Home Office staff for their diligence, especially at times of high volume, ensuring service standards are maintained.

I'm excited to welcome all the officers who were elected at the Supreme Council Session and am confident that through their leadership new endeavors will challenge members to be active in their subordinate

significant increase in usage. Discounts on a number of products, from electronics to travel, are available. Summer is a perfect time to review the program, <https://www.royalarcanum.com/benefits-perkspots.html>.

The Home Office continues to operate Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (EST). Should you have any questions or concerns, we ask you to call the office (888)-272-2686 or e-mail info@royalarcanum.com.



Nicholas G. Benoit
Chief Operations Officer
nbenoit@royalarcanum.com

BAKER'S BOX: APRICOT-FILLED PASTRY

Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto is happy to share this recipe for apricot-filled pastry or Hamantaschen.

INGREDIENTS FOR DOUGH:

3 eggs
1 cup sugar
3/4 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup orange juice
1 orange zest
2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
5-6 cups flour
1 Tablespoon baking powder
pinch of salt



INGREDIENTS FOR APRICOT FILLING:

(Prepare the filling the day before) or use apricot preserves

2 cups dry apricots
1/2 cup sugar

Filling:

Place apricots in a saucepan and cover with one inch of water. Bring to boil. Reduce & simmer until fork-tender (about 15-20 minutes). Drain well and puree fruit in a food processor. Then combine with sugar while still warm and heat in a small saucepan until sugar dissolves (5 minutes). Cool completely before using. (You can also add some apricot or peach preserves to the mixture for more flavor).

Dough:

Blend ingredients in order listed, using enough flour to make a soft dough that is not sticky. Using a rolling pin, roll dough out to 1/4 inch thick. Use a 3" cookie cutter or rim of a 3" glass to cut circles out of the dough, cutting as many as you can. Gather the remaining pieces and roll them out again. Cut more circles.

Combine & Bake:

Place one teaspoon of filling in the center of each circle. Fold the dough and pinch the side of the circle to create a triangle. Brush each filled triangle with egg wash and sprinkle the top with sugar.

Line the pastry pockets on a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Bake in a 375 degree oven for about 30 minutes or until top is light golden brown.



INTEGRITY COUNCIL JUNE 2024 MEETING

Integrity Council #586 held its quarterly luncheon meeting on Saturday afternoon, June 22, 2024 at Popi's Restaurant in South Philadelphia. Everyone enjoyed a meal, conversation, and laughs.

The Council received a report from Past Supreme Regent Pete Ferrara on the recent Supreme Executive Committee meeting and on some of the work and decisions facing the upcoming 106th Supreme Session. We approved a monetary donation to St. Elizabeth School in Baltimore (the charity for the Supreme Session), and the donation will be matched by the Grand Council of Pennsylvania. We discussed our Council's



charitable work (including Past Regent Lillie Mae Panichelli's recent donations to Grace Café at Arch Street United Methodist Church) and possible outreach to and activities for our Juniors.

Those in attendance and in the picture are Anita and Ralph Ferrara, Loretta Wehbe, Lillie Mae Panichelli, Jay

Newlin, Lottie Bruno, Nettie Malone, PSR Pete Ferrara, and PSR Herb Snyder. After an engaging luncheon meeting, we all headed home, looking forward to the Session in Baltimore and our next Council meeting in September.

SAVE SOME MONEY THIS SUMMER

The LJD Foundation's summer event to help women afflicted with GYN cancers was sponsored on July 13, 2024 as a Night at the Philadelphia Phillies game. The outing provided the opportunity for patients and their families to "leave the worries of treatment behind for a while" and relax and enjoy a spirited evening together while cheering on the home team!

The LJD Foundation was established in memory of Lorraine J. D'Emilio of Integrity Council #586 who was also a Royal Arcanum Fraternalist of the Year Award recipient. The Supreme Council, grateful for Lorraine's selfless volunteerism and unwavering dedication to charitable work, is pleased to support the Foundation's endeavors and honor her legacy of service to others.



CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE



Madeline Balmaceda crafting gift donations.

Madeline Balmaceda, a member of Claremont Council #1655, New York, has been volunteering for Knots of Love (knotsoflove.org). She has been busy since 2013 supporting the organization by sharing her talents in crafting.

Knots of Love provides hand-knit and crocheted beanies (caps) to patients going through chemotherapy, as well as blankets for babies in neonatal intensive care incubators. As a volunteer, Madeline has made and donated over a thousand chemo caps and NICU blankets, and large artisan blankets for silent auction fundraisers.

Madeline has started a local chapter of Knots of Love at her workplace where she taught dozens of beginners to knit and crochet. She was instrumental in fundraising efforts with over \$10,000 being donated to Knots of Love.



Artisan Blanket



Handmade Caps

SIMPLIFIED ISSUE PLAN

Premiums never increase and death benefit never decreases

This plan offers permanent protection for your loved ones that builds cash value each year.

Issue Ages
No Medical Exam
Age 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



DETROIT DOINGS

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer!

We have been busy in Michigan. First on June 10th, we completed our Buddy Project with the Chicago Councils. Both councils agreed to select organizations that assist blind adults or children. Michigan selected Penrickton Center for Blind Children. As a private non-profit, the center provides care and support to children who are visually impaired with multiple disabilities. We met with Patty Obrzut, Executive Director and toured the facility. They provide residential and day care for these children.



On June 22nd, Alison Kimmel, daughter of Eric & Barb Kimmel, was married to David Chung in a beautiful wedding! Alison is also a past recipient of a Royal Arcanum Scholarship; how nice to have a Royal Arcanum Family Wedding. As you know, Eric & Barb Kimmel host our annual RA/LDS Golf Outings. This September will be our 40th Golf Outing, and Eric is planning to make it special, so mark your calendar for Saturday, September 7th!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Royal Arcanum Session in Baltimore!

Submitted by: Jan Brazas



FORT DEARBORN COUNCIL

My name is Matthew Crawford; fishing is my passion and I use my social media outlets to share my catches and teach my followers how to increase their catches and bring in bigger fish.

Last month, I had the opportunity to teach Cub Scout members (both the kids and their parents) about fishing through the nonprofit organization Learn2FishWithUs. Not only that, but these anglers

got to test out their newly acquired skills after a short educational seminar put on by Greg Karch, the founder of Learn2FishWithUs. Thanks to the additional support from the other volunteers and myself, every angler who participated managed to catch a fish. The smiles and excitement were both priceless and endless!

*Matthew Crawford
Fort Dearborn Council*



JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS AND VIEWS

In this issue of the Bulletin, we proudly announce the winners of our scholarships and grants, along with photos of the winners. We congratulate them on their scholastic achievements and wish them continued success in their studies and in their future endeavors. The Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum awarded close to \$60,000 in scholarships and grants this year. We hope that these awards will make a lasting impact on our members' lives and help to alleviate some of the financial burden of their college education. We encourage them to use this opportunity to make a difference in their communities.

The winners are determined by an independent judge in the field of education who is not affiliated with our Society.

CHOICES PLANNER and CHOICES EXPLORER are two resources that the Royal Arcanum has made available for our Junior Members. These provide great information for assisting members with all kinds of college and career related decisions, including finding other available college scholarship opportunities. Go to www.royalarcanum.com and under the "Benefits" heading, click on "College & Career". At the bottom of this page are the links to CHOICES PLANNER and CHOICES EXPLORER. Click on one of these links and it will take you to a page where you can enter the site ID and password. If you require any further assistance, contact the Home Office (1-888-272-2686).

Our Juniors are also reminded that we reimburse up to \$100.00 (with receipt) to those taking classes and tutoring to improve their score on college entrance exams.

A postal card will be mailed in the fall to all Junior members who will be entering their senior year of high school in September as a reminder for them to begin the application process for next year's Royal Arcanum scholarship and grant program. The deadline for the application is December 31st, 2024.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer, and invite our



**Junior Department
Director
Errica Conforto**



younger Juniors to continue to participate in our programs by coloring the page or completing the puzzle in the Bulletin, or sending us poems or short stories to be published.

Junior members who distinguish themselves with leadership and volunteerism in their council or communities can be nominated for the

Royal Arcanum Youth of the Year Award; winners will receive \$300.00 and will be featured in our Bulletin. You can find information and the application on our website.

Have an enjoyable and relaxing summer. Be safe.

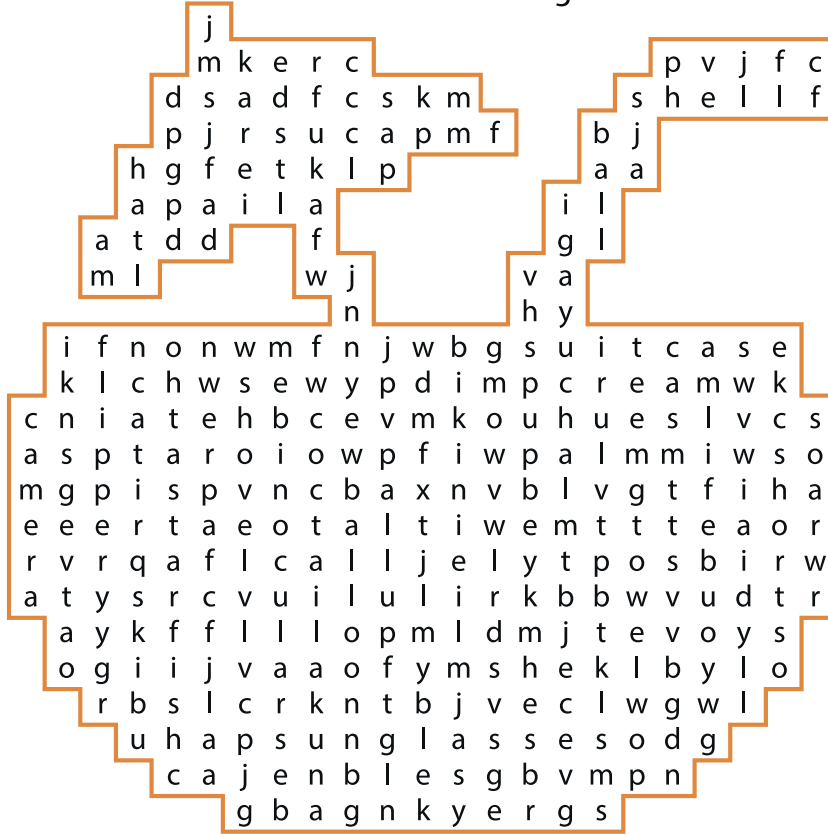
Sincerely yours in V.M.C.,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Errica Conforto".

**Errica Conforto
Junior Director**

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

palm towel pail camera bag balloon
 shell suitcase cap mask lifebuoy binoculars
 flipper cream ball shorts shovel
 watermelon starfish bikini sunglasses hat



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 award from Amazon.com!



Junior Must Submit:

Name _____

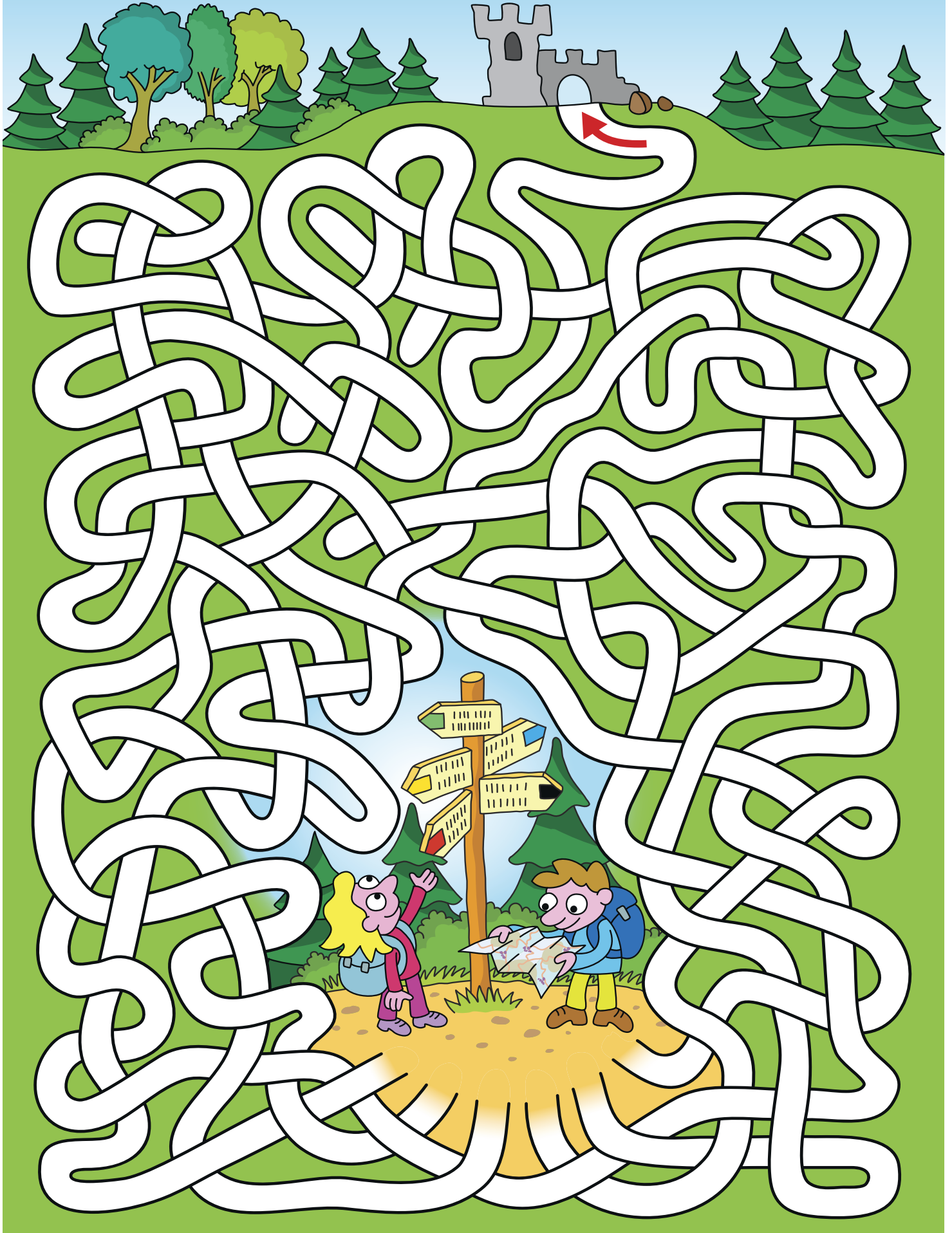
Age _____

Council _____

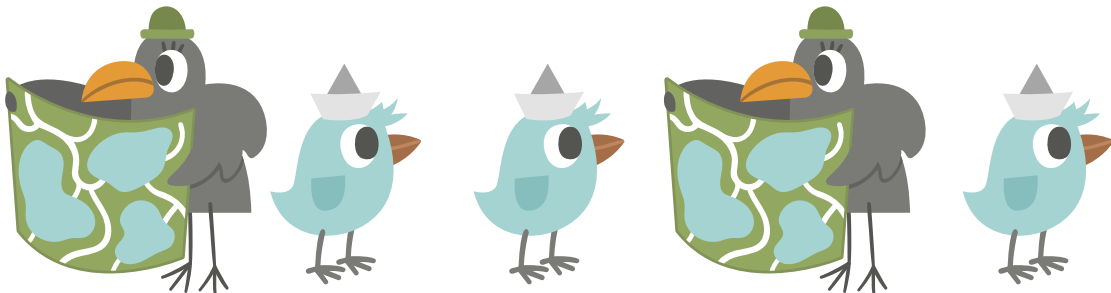
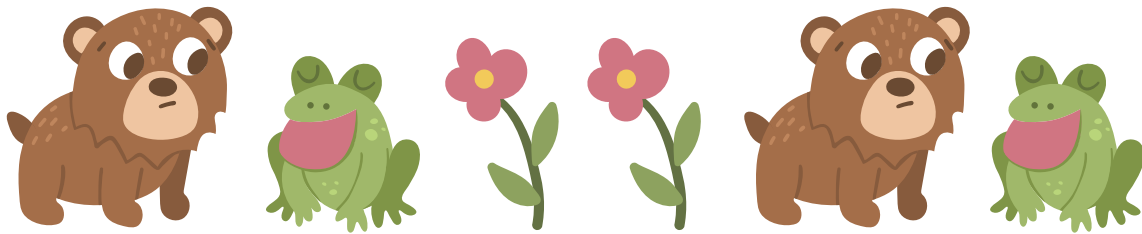
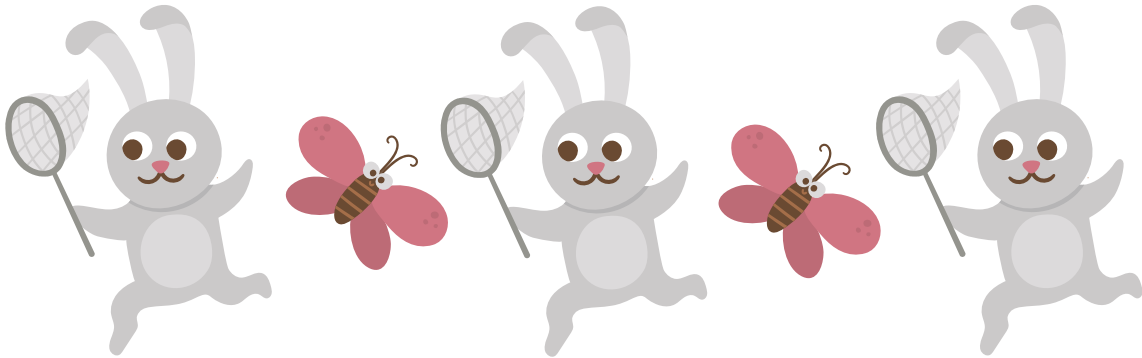
Email Address _____

**PLEASE SEND ALL ANSWERS TO:
 JUNIOR DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARCANUM,
 61 BATTERYMARCH ST., BOSTON, MA 02110-3208
 OR EMAIL YOUR ENTRY AND ADDRESS TO
 INFO@ROYALARCANUM.COM**

SUMMERTIME MAZE



WHAT COMES NEXT?



JUNIOR SUMMER COLORING



147 YEARS AND COUNTING!

When people immigrated to America over a century ago, they soon joined together to share friendship, common goals and support. As a result, fraternal societies were born with members helping fellow members, especially in times of need.

The Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum was organized by nine men as a fraternal benefit society on June 23, 1877 in Boston, Massachusetts. It was founded on the principles of fraternalism and sound business practices for offering affordable life insurance protection based on a scale of assessment.

Dr. Darius Wilson, a medical doctor by profession, and founder of the organization, became the first Supreme Regent. He chose to name the Society, "Royal Arcanum." The Society's incorporation charter was granted on November 5, 1877.

By the 1890s, councils were established along the east coast, across the nation, and north into Canada. Subordinate Councils were established in local communities and Grand Councils were formed to represent statewide jurisdictions and provinces. In 1940 boys were admitted into membership, and in 1956 girls were invited to enroll. In so doing, the Junior Department was created. In 1958 women were accepted into membership and with this step, the Royal Arcanum became a family fraternal benefit society that spanned two great nations in North America. The Society is based on the founding principles of Virtue, Mercy and Charity. Members promote love of country, home and friends; faithfulness to family; honor in dealings with humankind, generosity with those in need, and compassion for the bereaved and distressed.

Since its founding, the Royal Arcanum has promoted quality products and opportunities for members as they prepare for their futures. A varied and impressive portfolio of life protection policies for newborns through seniors 85 years of age has been developed and remains in force, with new products consistently being researched and marketed to address consumer needs.

The Society, being organized under the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is subject to triennial examinations of its operations by the Massachusetts Department of Insurance and periodically by the other 30 states and District of Columbia where it is licensed to conduct business.

Royal Arcanians are always welcome to participate in socials, family outings, recreational activities, and other council-sponsored events. As new members enroll, the Society

continues to grow and advance the mission of fraternal service to members and to communities while demonstrating allegiance to the Society's greatest founding attribute – "Charity." The Society's long and vibrant history is a testament of the dedicated service of fraternal volunteers and their commitment to seeing the Society succeed for future generations.

This year the Royal Arcanum celebrates its 147th anniversary and with much gratitude, we toast our members for their support of the Society and its continual growth and progress!



A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Time sure flies by and things happen quickly. The newly graduated high school students are now getting ready for college. I know my house has been nonstop since June. We let our daughter Grace visit Hungary with her boyfriend's family over the summer and she is having a blast! It's a once in a lifetime opportunity and has helped us prepare for the next big step in her life, COLLEGE!!!!!!!



Grace will be attending the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo in New York. It is both exciting and scary for all of us. For Deb and me, we are trying to get Grace to meet all her deadlines. (Well, she did get everything done while away in Hungary.) Now we are getting ready for Parent Orientation and then her move-in date, August 21st.

All parents go through the same things. *Will my child be okay? Can they manage it?* It is a long way from home. Safety. If we, as parents, help them up to this point, then they will be able to go **Into the Future**. The future can be scary if you're not prepared mentally. If you have a system in place, along with family and friends, there is nothing you cannot do. Financially, this can be managed several separate ways. Planning is a big part. If it is an option, getting help from your workplace is always a smart place to start. Sometimes businesses will offer to either match all or part of what you set aside from your payroll. Another impressive place to start is the Royal Arcanum.

The Royal Arcanum offers several ways for you to protect your loved ones and save now and **Into the Future**. To start, all it takes is at least \$1,000.00 in life insurance protection or \$500.00 for an annuity, but do not stop there. Visit www.royalarcanum.com or call 1-888-Arcanum (888-272-2686) to learn about our products. It will be one of the best phone calls you can make.

We have a deep history that we share, and here is some of that wonderful backstory:

We belong to a fraternal society based in Boston. The

society is the Royal Arcanum and it was formed on June 23, 1877. The Royal Arcanum is the last original member of the Fraternal Congress. Some of the prominent members were: U.S. Vice President James S. Sherman, who served under President William Howard Taft, 1909-1912. He was a member of Imperial Council in Utica, New York. Famous child book author, Dr. Seuss and James B. Kilsheimer, III who was one of the lead attorneys during the Nuremberg Trials from November 1945 to October 1946 were Royal Arcanum members.

Let us not forget about all the charitable work our members do for the community. As you read our Bulletin, take notice of what the councils are doing and say, "Hey! We can do that in our community." It is a great feeling when you do a food/ clothing drive and then deliver those items to a food pantry, church or shelter and see the faces of those individuals you are helping. It's priceless.

I almost forgot, when councils get together and you get to see someone you have not seen for a while, catching up with them is one of the best feelings in the world.

I wish all of you a safe and wonderful summer. Good luck to our young adults who are heading off to college and starting the next chapter of their lives.

Remember to visit the Royal Arcanum website, call the Home Office, or if you would like to chat, please feel free to reach out to me.

Yours in Virtue, Mercy, Charity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antal Basa Jr". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Antal (Tony) Basa Jr
Supreme Secretary
Abasa@royalarcanum.com
617-429-8763



ANNUITIES

A man in a blue and white striped shirt and white shorts stands on a sandy beach, carrying a young child on his shoulders. The child is wearing a red and white striped shirt and light-colored shorts, holding a beach umbrella. They are both looking out at the ocean under a clear blue sky.

**4% Current Credited
rate for Annuities!!
Guaranteed 3% rate
of return for the life
of the contract.***

Tax-Deferred Until Withdrawal

**\$500
Minimum
Deposit**

**No Service
Charges**

**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.

*The contract will provide a minimum 3% credited rate for the life of the annuity.

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