

Grand Knight's State of the Council Report

June 28, 2016

The Council will kindly Come to Order. We will proceed with this evening's program.

Father Rob, Worthy Columbian Dignitaries, Honored and Special Guests, and my Brother Knights and Ladies:

Once again thank you for joining us tonight for recognition of the men, ladies and young adults who continue to serve our Parish, the Virginia Beach Community and in many cases far beyond. We also honor and thank all the past Grand Knights of this Council who have continuously provided their excellent leadership and guidance to our Council for these first 12 years of our existence.

The first order of business is the State of the Council Report. The state of Saint John the Apostle Council remains strong, active, and healthy. During this 2015-16 fraternal year we have continued to grow our Council and build on our strong reputation for excellence in executing a mix of continuing and new service programs. I would like to take this opportunity to review some of our highlights and accomplishments of the last year.

FATHER McGIVNEY MEMBERSHIP AWARD. Our Council stands at 311 members. Our 2015-16 Membership goal was a net gain of 20 new members. We've added 27 new brothers this fraternal year and had 7 losses deducted. We are through 100% of the Fraternal Year and have achieved 100% of our goal. We have therefore qualified for the *Father McGivney Award* for membership growth for the 12th consecutive year, which includes every year since we were Chartered. Congratulations to our

Membership Director, Chancellor, Buck Brownell for leading this accomplishment.

FOUNDERS INSURANCE AWARD. The 2015-16 Insurance Member goal was net 7 new insurance owners. We have added 14 new insurance owners with 0 deducts, for a net growth of 14, we have achieved 200% of our goal. We have qualified for the Founders Award for insurance growth for the 12th consecutive year, which again is every year since we were Chartered. Thank you to Field Agent, now General Agent, Bob Abbate for helping us achieve this goal.

COLUMBIAN AWARD. The Columbian Award requires sponsorship of either four major programs, or of one the Supreme Council's featured (or Super) programs, in each of the six program areas. The program areas are Church, Community, Council, Family, Culture of Life, and Youth Activities. We sponsored many continuing programs this year, along with some new ones.

Church Activities.

- * Refund Support of Vocations Program (RSVP) (a Supreme featured program) - we sponsored Seminarian Kyle O'Connor from Roanoke who is studying in Rome, providing him financial support to supplement his personal expenses, we communicate with him regularly, encourage him, and pray for him as he discerns his priestly vocation.
- Keep Christ in Christmas card sales – we sold over \$1,000 worth of cards, ornaments, stickers etc. after masses and at monthly parish breakfasts. We've now made our annual goal 12 times.
- Fifth Sunday Rosary - We sponsored this new program during each of the 4 months in which there was a 5th Sunday. We prayed all 15 decades of the Pro-Life Rosary for an end to abortion and for the preservation of our religious freedom.

- Holy Family Prayer Program – sponsored this inspirational new prayer service with the Holy Family icon from Supreme, which was blessed by Pope Francis, for 61 attendees.
- RCIA and First Holy Communion Rosaries - we again prayed and then presented rosaries to all RCIA Confirmandi and to all First Communicants for the 9th year.
- We provided logistical support for CHRP 17 this spring

Community Activities.

- We continued to serve our “world famous” 3rd Sunday monthly parish breakfast for the 11th year to provide parishioners a fellowship opportunity after Mass, to get to know one another, and to raise money to support our SJA school.
- In Sept we traveled to Montgomery and Boomer, WV for 4 days with two truckloads of tools and 10 knights who donated 418 man hours of labor and completed 2 big construction projects for Immaculate Conception & St Anthony Shrine Catholic Churches.
- Sponsored and put on the 6th Annual Veteran’s Recognition Dinner for 155 veterans, their families and parishioners.
- Continued our Wheelchair Loaner Program providing unlimited free loans of wheelchairs and walkers to 11 members of the parish and community.

Council Activities.

- * Special Olympics Support (a Supreme featured program) - included serving dinner to Special Olympics athletes, coaches and families at the Virginia Fall Games, supporting 3 fall games venues with volunteers, and 3 council Polar Plungers raised \$2,000 for SOVA
- Continued our monthly “Knights Night Out” program where Knights and their families gather monthly at a different area restaurant for fraternity, camaraderie, and a good family meal

- We sponsored our 2nd Annual Valentine's Day Dinner Dance for 75 Council members and parishioners.
- We initiated very successfully both a Council immunization clinic and a parish Red Cross Blood Drive, which we hope will become annual events.

Family Activities.

- * Food for Families (a Supreme featured program) – coordinated with the parish outreach ministry to support 2 semi-annual food drives, collecting over 12,500 pounds of food and about \$530 cash for local food pantries. Donated the \$500 Food for Families refund from Supreme to Star of the Sea and St. Michael's food pantries.
- Adopted a very large, needy family of 7 from parish outreach for Christmas, providing 4 Christmas presents for each family member and 28 bags of food to make their Christmas special
- Had 3rd Annual Family Night at the Movies at the Virginia Aquarium iMax Theater showing "A Man for All Seasons" about the life of Saint Thomas More to 241 moviegoers
- Sponsored Connect With a Wish Foundation 5K run fundraiser to support child foster care program in VB

Culture of Life Activities.

- * March for Life (a Supreme featured program) – we again coordinated and sold tickets for a charter bus to attend the March for Life in Washington, DC, but unfortunately the trip was cancelled last minute due to icy roads
- Participated in two 40 Days for Life prayer vigil campaigns at Planned Parenthood of SEVa during Advent and Lent with an average of 13 knights, family members and parishioners attending each of the 10 weekly vigils
- Baby Bottle Drive - raised and donated \$4,300 to Hope 4 Life Mobile Crisis Pregnancy Center
- Sponsored a weekly Pro-Life advertisement in the parish

bulletin for the Hope 4 Life ministry

Youth Activities.

- * Coats for Kids (a Supreme featured program) – donated four cases (48 coats) to Connect With A Wish Foundation for VB children in foster care
- We are making tonight a donation from the SK Dick Waterval Scholarship Fund for tuition assistance to Saint John the Apostle Catholic School
- Sponsored the annual Soccer Challenge (17 participants); Free Throw Championship (23 participants); Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest (17 participants); and continued the KCIC and Substance Abuse Prevention poster contests
- Held our annual Altar Server Recognition party at PA Rec Center with 61 servers attending, and presented Altar Server Recognition Certificates to 124 Altar Servers.

The Columbian Award is the 3rd leg of the Star Council triad. The service program activities highlighted above, while not inclusive of all the council's programs, more than fulfilled the requirements for the Columbian Award. We completed the requirements for 5 of the 6 Supreme Council featured or "Super" programs, all except "Habitat for Humanity". We have qualified for the 2015-16 *Columbian Award* for program excellence for the 12th consecutive year. Congratulations to our General Program Director, Deputy Grand Knight, Andy Bair for leading this accomplishment.

STAR COUNCIL. To be a Star Knights of Columbus Council you must win the above 3 awards – McGivney, Founders, and Columbian. The State deputy set a goal for this fraternal year of all 145 Councils in Virginia to make Star Council. Our contribution towards that goal was to make sure we were one of those who made it. I am pleased to report to you, and to our Worthy State Deputy, that we have held up our part of the goal - we have

achieved Star Council for now the 12th consecutive year – every year of our existence. In addition, this year we garnered our 12th consecutive State Deputy Award. WSD you can count on Saint John the Apostle Council.

DEGREE COMPLETIONS. Degree exemplifications are where we teach the principles of our Order – Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Of the 27 new members we added this year, 23 were new members via completion of the Admission Degree, while 4 were via readmission or reapplication. Thank you to our Admissions Degree Team, and team captain DW/PGK Jim Henry for their support. Another major council goal for this year was to get as many of the 51 Admission Degree members as possible to the Formation and Knighthood degrees, and as many of the 47 Formation degree members to the Knighthood degree. We had 23 members make Formation Degree and 20 Members make Knighthood degree. Although we didn't fully achieve these goals we made significant progress in both areas.

NECROLOGY. Prior to this year our Council had 16 Brother Knights pass away. We added one more beloved brother to that list this FY with the passing of our Worthy Brother Joe DellaVecchio on last October 21, 2015. We remember him fondly now, and pray for all 17 of them at every business meeting. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

KOVAR. We once again met our assigned KOVAR fundraising goal this year, which was \$6,600. Thank you to Chairman Art Hill and his committee, and to all the Council Brothers who signed up to wear the aprons and pass out the Tootsie Rolls at Wall Mart, the ABC store, and Walgreens. Under Art's long chairmanship, our council has never failed to reach our goal in the 12 years of our existence.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL PARKING. This year we were again offered the opportunity to work parking cars at the Pungo Strawberry Festival on Memorial Day weekend, and it was another great event for us. This was a huge effort in which 127 brothers, wives, and family members donated 823 hours of volunteer service over two days to park 2,618 cars. The ~\$7,800 we raised will go a long way in supplementing our budget. Thanks to Brother Dennis Free for again recommending us to the Strawberry Festival committee, and a tip of the hat goes to all those who pitched in and helped.

PARISH MINISTRIES. Knights from our Council and their family members participate in over 35 of the Parish's ministries and outreach programs, and serve as leaders in many of these.

There is much more that Council 13467 has done in our Church, community and the Tidewater area. I would venture to say that there is not a program or committee at SJA that does not draw from the Knights, our wives or our family members.

**MEN AND LADIES OF SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE....
CONGRATULATIONS ON ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!!**

As I said at the outset, the state of Saint John the Apostle Council remains strong, active, and healthy. This is in no small part because of the wonderful youth, families, and Knights we count among the members of our parish and our Council.

The next order of business is the presentation of the Young Woman of the Year award.

YOUNG WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Our Young Woman of the Year is a very high performer academically, athletically, in her church, and community.

Our YWOY is a graduate of SJA Catholic School where she completed grades K-8, graduated first in her class with honors, earning a scholarship to the Bishop Sullivan CHS National Junior Honor Society (2011 - 2013)
 HS Principal's List (2013, 2014, 2015), the good list that is!
 National Honor Society (2015-), elected president for 2016
 National Spanish Honor Society (2105-), elected president 2016
 National Science Honor Society (2015-)
 Bishop Sullivan Spanish Club (2013, 2014, 2015)
 Bishop Sullivan HS Campus Ministry - Altar Server, Lector, Extraordinary Minister (2013-)
 Bishop Sullivan HS Peer Leadership Council (2015-), and selected as Senior retreat leader for 2016-17
 Selected HS Campus Ministry Leader for 2016
 Blue Crab Ocean Science Bowl Team Mbr (2013, 2014, 2015)
 Volunteered weekly at Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters (2005-2014) – member of the fundraising circle, prepared for the annual auction and golf tourney fundraisers
 Volunteers weekly US Navy Treasure Shop (2006-) does customer service, cleaning, inventory, consignments
 SJA Altar Server (2009-), Altar Server captain (2010-), Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist at SJA (2016-)
 Volunteer meal server weekly at Judeo-Christian Outreach Center (2014-)
 Volunteer Service Trip (7 days) to Maison Fortune Orphanage, Hinche, Haiti (2015, 2016)
 March for Life Washington, DC (2015)
 Varsity Co-ed Golf Team (2013 - 2015), Medalist (2013), elected Team Captain (2016-17)
 Water Safety Trained Lifeguard (2014- Present)
 Varsity Girls Basketball Team Manager (2015-)
 Presidential Gold Volunteer Service Award - (2012, 2013, 2014)
 Knights of Columbus Citizenship Essay Contest Winner (2015)

Saint Vincent DePaul Volunteer Service Award - (2015)
Pope Francis Award for over 250 hrs of volunteer service (2016)
Selected for the prestigious American Legion Auxiliary Virginia
Girls State Program (2016)

On top of all this she maintains a 4.43 GPA while having completed 4 Honors courses and six AP classes in her first three years of HS. She has sustained a level of academic excellence over time that is seldom exceeded.

She devotes herself to her church and her studies, and still finds time to excel in athletics and give generously of her time to numerous charitable and religious organizations in the community. She is an exceptionally well rounded young woman.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you our outstanding 2016 Young Woman of the Year, rising Bishop Sullivan HS senior Miss Leah Grace Schiffbauer, who is the daughter of Brother Knight Paul Schiffbauer and his wife Helen.

The next order of business is the presentation of the Young Man of the Year award.

YOUNG MAN OF THE YEAR

Our Young Man of the Year is also a high performer academically, athletically, in his church, and community.

Our Young Man of the Year was a Johns Hopkins Univ. Center for Talented Youth Program Participant (2007-2014)

Principals List (2010, 13, & 14); Honor Roll (2011, 2012)

National Junior Honor Society (2010-2012)

National Honor Society (2103-Present)

Elected HS Student Senate (2012-2015)

AP Scholar with Honors (2015)

Advanced Studies Diploma (June 2016)

Virginia Board of Education Seal (2016)

Governors Seal (2016)

Seal of Advanced Mathematics & Technology (2016)

Excellence in Civics Education (2016)

Virginia Early College Scholars Program (2016)

Gold Medalist (2006) USAG Texas State Champion - trampoline & tumbling

Silver Medalist (2007) USAG Region III - trampoline & tumbling

Bronze Medalist (2007) USAG Junior Olympics Level 5 National Championship, Trampoline & Tumbling

AAU Wrestling Club (2007-) - wrestler, helper w/ middle & elementary school wrestlers

Kellam HS Varsity Wrestling Team (2013, 2014, 2015)

Kellam HS Wrestling Team Academic Award (2013)

Placed 3rd in weight class at the Conference tournament (2015)

Altar Server (2007-), Altar Server Captain (2010-), Altar Server for special liturgies, funerals, Easter vigil, Baptisms, and Confirmations involving the Bishop (2011-)

Parish Youth Group member (2010-)

Member of parish Baptism preparation team (2012-)

Social Outreach Ministry (2010-) food pantry, holiday outreach
Volunteered at Catholic Charities SEVA (2013, 2014)
assembled food & clothing kits
Volunteer Judeo-Christian Outreach Center (2014)
Steubenville Youth Conference (2013, 2014)
CCD (5th grade Sunday School) Teacher's Assistant (2013-)
Parish Vacation Bible School - teen helper (2013), supervisor of
teen helpers (2014)
Knights of Columbus Exceptional Service Award (2013)
Knights for a Cure Relay for Life - 1st place individual
fundraising (2014)
City Parks and Recreation Lifeguard (2015-)
American Legion Virginia Boys State graduate (2015)
1st Degree Member of Saint John the Apostle Council

In addition to all of this, he graduated on June 18th with honors from Kellam HS ranked 30th in a class of 478 with a GPA of 4.09 while completing 9 AP classes. He plans to attend Virginia Tech University beginning this fall.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce to you our outstanding 2016 Young Man of the Year, recent Kellam HS graduate Mr. Kyle Thomas Scharf, who is the son of Sir Knight Shawn Scharf and Lady Jennifer.

The next order of business is the presentation of the Family of the Year award.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

This family attends daily Mass together every day, and Sunday Mass together every week. Nick is the Convener for the Parish Pastoral Council; Anna teaches Children's Liturgy of the Word at Sunday Mass. Nick is a Lector and an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist at both daily and Sunday Mass. The oldest son Jonathan is an Altar Server. Nick attended the Diocesan Men's conference with men of the parish and many of his fellow Knights. He is a table monitor for the CCD Confirmation classes, and a chaperone for parish youth attending the Steubenville "Youth Defending the Faith" conference. He and Anna actively participate in the Legion of Mary, carrying Holy Communion to the sick and infirmed.

All three children go to the SJA Catholic school, the boys are in elementary school and daughter Grace is in kindergarten. Both boys play on school basketball teams; dad serves as coach on school athletic teams. Children attend and mom teaches vacation bible school at the parish. Both mom and dad have attended the Steubenville "Defending the Faith Conference" together for four years. The family always attends the annual parish picnic together as a family. Both boys are active in Cub Scouting and daughter Grace is involved with Bluebirds.

All three children participated in the Council Soccer Challenge; both boys participated in the Council Free Throw Championship. David participated in the KCIC poster contest winning 1st place in his age group. The entire family participated in the Council's Holy Family Prayer service with each child reading a portion of a reflection and all leading together one decade of the rosary. The family supports the

Council's monthly parish breakfast program by attending, and the children sometimes help with busing tables and cleanup. Entire family has participated in a Council chartered bus trip to the March for Life.

Nick and Anna work very hard as a Catholic couple at their parenting and it reflects itself in their personal carriage, humility, reverence, and actions, as well as the behavior and actions of their children. Nick is a retired highly decorated warrior who has no doubt experienced some of the very worst of action during his time in service; yet as a retiree he is also a well-adjusted, gentle, soft spoken, devout, Christian gentleman. He and his family are an inspiration to all who observe them, and they demonstrate that even in today's secular dominated world a family can live, and grow, and remain happy while living a Christian, faith filled life. Both Nick and Anna are kind and gracious, and are teaching their children the same traits. They were chosen because they represent the very best of Christian families our parish has to offer, and also represent the success that families can have at living a Christian life when they set their mind to it. They are known and admired by all in our church, Council, and community. The members of our council are proud to call Nick our Brother and most enthusiastically congratulate him and his family on their selection as the Saint John the Apostle Council Family of the Year.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce to you our outstanding 2016 Family of the Year, Nick, Anna, Jonathan, David, and Grace Olivier.

The next order of business is the presentation of the Knight of the Year award.

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR

This Knight attends Mass Daily. He is recently retired as Facilities Manager for over 15 years at the SJA church and school, managing maintenance of physical plant, grounds and security. He is a member of the Parish Outreach Ministry. He supports the Funeral Ministry by setting up for, taking down after, and cleaning up for funeral receptions. He was Assistant Parish Project Manager for the recent \$2.0 million renovation of the Church Sanctuary Renovation Project overseeing the contractor's day-to-day work for the six months of construction.

He is a loving husband who cared for his wife Carleen who recently had hip replacement surgery and has suffered through a period of debilitating reaction to her anesthesia which caused severe nerve pain and sometimes made it difficult to get around. He frequently participates with his entire family in the Council's monthly Knights Night Out, and supports and attends Council functions with Carleen and his married children and their families – monthly parish breakfast, Veteran's Dinner, Valentine's Dinner Dance.

He initiated an Annual Military Veteran's Recognition Dinner at the Parish. He plans, arranges the menu and cooking/catering, sells tickets, procures necessary material & food, leads setup and cleanup, selects a retired military parishioner as guest speaker, provides door prizes. Organizes annually a patriotic Veteran's Day Memorial Service for the parish school – it includes he and veteran parishioners in their military uniforms, and active duty military flag detail posting the colors, music, student led pledge of allegiance and national anthem, and remarks on patriotism and the value of military service.

He co-chaired the first annual Valentine's Dinner Dance for the Council and parish. It was such a hit it has become an annual event with which he continues to help. Delivers food baskets for Parish Outreach Ministry to families at Thanksgiving, and food baskets and presents to families at Christmas time. Co-chairs Council program each December to find the "most in need" family with children in the community, takes money from a Council pass the hat, does the shopping, organizes the gift wrapping of presents, organizes and leads the delivery of presents and food. Last Christmas a family of seven received 28 grocery bags of food, and four wrapped presents each; two children also received bicycles.

Works with the "Connect With a Wish" (CWW) Foundation which is a local organization that grants wishes to children who are in extended foster care in the city

He is a regular attendee at business meetings (no small contribution!) He actively supports Council projects and activities. Spends 4 hours annually giving out KOVAR tootsie rolls and collecting money. Gave 4 hours to our project to park cars at annual Pungo Strawberry Festival. Executed Council "Coats for Kids" program, providing 48 coats to CWW Foundation for needy foster kids. He is a key participant in Council Food for Families program – helps set up activity rooms for collection, helps sort and repack food items, prepositions large trailer for hauling food to local pantries, helps load the trailer twice a year with over 6,000 pounds of food.

Although he has chosen not to hold elected office because of his full time employment, our KOY is a Catholic gentleman whose behavior and good works exemplify what it means to be

a Knight of Columbus. He is a 3rd degree member who personifies and practices daily the order's principles of charity, unity and fraternity. He always has a kind word or cheerful greeting for his brothers, and those with whom he comes in contact. He has a huge heart of gold when it comes to the disadvantaged. His opinions and input are valued by Council leadership. He is a DOER. He has demonstrated remarkable initiative and organization in the projects he has chosen to undertake as leader. A decorated retired Army officer, he is a patriot of the first order! He was chosen quite simply because he sets a very positive example of what we want from our members. He practices charity and humility in his home, family, in his community (in spades), in his church, and to the children in our parish school. He is kind and most generous with his time and resources. Although he stays very busy, he models daily the behavior of that proverbial person who would "give you the shirt off his back". All of the members of this Council are proud to call him Brother and most enthusiastically congratulate him for his selection as the Saint John the Apostle Council Knight of the Year.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce to you our outstanding 2016 Knight of the Year, Wayne Lombardo.

SJA SCHOOL. The next order of business is presentations to be made to the Principal of Saint John the Apostle Catholic School. We are pleased that our School Principal, Ms. Miriam Cotton could be with us this evening.

Principals Discretionary Grant. Principal Cotton, Saint John the Apostle Council is extremely interested in Catholic education, and

in particular the support of Saint John the Apostle Catholic School. We are aware from both our members who have children in the school, and from interaction with you and your faculty and staff, that things come up from time to time that were not envisioned at budget time. With that in mind it has been the custom of the Council to annually make a grant of money to the school principal for use at the principal's discretion. This grant is intended to fund something that will improve either the school plant, equipment, or educational programs that would otherwise not be possible within the school's budget. This year we are awarding the school a Principal's Discretionary Grant of \$2,000. We rely on your professional judgement to put it to good use.

Tuition Assistance Grant. As Knights we are also aware that the cost of providing a Catholic education presents an extraordinary challenge to some families. And we also know the cost of tuition, like all other costs of living, never goes down.

Sir Knight Richard Waterval is a deceased member of our Council who highly valued and supported Catholic education. Upon his passing his family asked that instead of flowers donations be made in his name to Saint John the Apostle Catholic School. With this in mind our Council established the Sir Knight Richard Waterval Scholarship Fund in the spring of 2014. This Scholarship Fund is intended to make grants to the school to fund tuition assistance for a student, or students, at Saint John the Apostle Catholic School. This year we are awarding the school a Tuition Assistance Grant of \$2,000 in the name of SK Richard Waterval. Again, we rely on your professional judgment to put it to best use to provide tuition assistance to a deserving Catholic family as you see fit.

The Knights of the Council wish you and your faculty and staff every continued success as you prepare for the next academic year.

The next order of business is recognition of Council Officers, Program Directors and Chairmen.

COUNCIL OFFICERS, PROGRAM DIRECTORS, CHAIRMEN

A Grand Knight and Council cannot be successful without the help and support of a dedicated staff of officers, directors and chairmen. All of you have contributed immeasurably to the success we have enjoyed as a Council this year. I want to thank the Officers, Program Directors and Program Chairmen for their dedicated service and the outstanding performance they have given the Council this year. Brothers, ALL of your contributions are valued and deeply appreciated. Please accept these tokens of appreciation from Kathy and I for all your contributions. You make this Council run as smoothly as it does.

- KOVAR Art Hill (Met goal again 12th time; WV Trip)
- Web Master Bill Dora (2016 VA Council Web Site of the Year)
- Exec Sect Patrick Mayette (Certificates)
- Cult of Life Couple Lew & Mary Cabral (MFL, Baby Bottle, 40 DFL)
- Youth Director Dave Bruno (Increased participation YOY again)
- Family Director Jack Shick (KNO, LOM, Valentines Dance)
- Asst Fam Dir Jeff Goodchild (Christmas Pty, Valentines Dance)
- Xmas Family Adopt PGK Dennis Atkins (Christmas Adopt a Family)
- Council Director Doug Dyckman (Breakfast Chair, Beach House)
- Bereavement Peter Perry (Sympathy, Get Well, Mass cards)
- Parish Blood Drive Roy & Karen Alther
- Immunization Rudy & Chona Bojo (Immunization Clinic)
- Community Dir Paul West (Movie, cupcake baker)
- Veterans Dinner Wayne Lombardo
- Wheel Chair Ed Hamilton (Wheel Chair & Walker Loaners)

- Church Director Paul Beni (KCIC, Rosaries)
- RSVP Shawn Hutchings (Vocations Chair)
- Lecturer Gabe Retana (Informative Topics on short notice)
- 1-Year Trustee PGK, DD Designate Jim Henry (Work horse #1)
- 2-Yr Trustee PGK Joe Connelly (Work horse #2; new FS)
- 3-Yr Trustee PGK Tony Reade (Stepped up big time in relief)
- Outside Guard Tom Whalen (Steady as she goes)
- Inside Guard Ed "Daisy" Bosko (Finished for DellaVecchio)
- Warden John Kummers (Breakfast, all round utility man)
- Advocate Tim Murphy (Counselor)
- Treasurer Jim Novelli (Interest earned, SPCA, retiring)
- Recorder Kevin Cassidy (Stepped up again; Treasurer)
- Financial Sect Brian Avery (Detail man, Record Dues paid, retiring)
- Chancellor Buck Brownell (McGivney Award)
- Deputy GK Andy Bair (Columbian Award)
- Chaplain Rev Father Rob Cole (Incredibly busy, time is precious)

STATE DEPUTY. We are blessed and honored to have our 2015-16 VA State Deputy Stephen Paul Raschke, Sr. and Lady Donna with us this evening. Steve is a retired Army Command Sergeant Major. He and Lady Donna live in Gloucester, Va. He is a member of Walter Pollard Council 5480 in Newport News. He has served on the Virginia State Council for the past 6 years, progressing through the chairs, and culminating in being our State Deputy for the 2015-16 Fraternal Year. We are grateful that he and Donna were willing to deal with the HRBT tunnel traffic nightmare to be with us this evening. Please join me in giving a warm welcome to Virginia State Deputy Stephen Paul Raschke, Sr. and Lady Donna.

State Deputy's Remarks

Thank You Worthy State Deputy. The next order of business is

the post and relief of the Grand Knight

PASS THE GAVEL

We have been blessed in this Council for 12 years always to have another Knight in line ready to assume leadership of our Council. This year is no exception. We are again so blessed to have WDGK Andy Bair to assume the duties of the Grand Knight. Brother Andy thank you for all you have done for me and our Council this past year! Congratulations on your election as Grand Knight.

I now pass to you this gavel, signifying your acceptance of the office of Grand Knight. I wish you and Marie success and know that you will maintain the Council's well-deserved reputation for excellence. Good luck, and as my predecessor told me, "keep the ship on course and between the buoys!"

PGK JACKET PRESENTATION

The last order of business is some well-deserved “Thank You”

- Thank you to my wife Kathy, Teri & Brian Avery, Michele & Dave Johnson, Lenore & Jeff Goodchild who helped set up and decorate the cafeteria and transform it into the banquet hall for this evening.
 - Please join me in thanking Domenick Morrocu and Primo’s Pizza and Italian Ristorante for preparing the excellent food.
 - Thank you to Andy and Christine Echevarria for helping serve dinner, and for supervising our youth wait staff and the dishwashing
 - Thank you to Joe Rutledge, Joe McCallister, Kyle Haberdasch, and Michael Santolomas for helping serve dinner and for clearing the tables & helping clean up
 - I also want to thank our faithful bar keeps and good friends Brother Duane and Gina Heidler. As always they have added some sparkle to the evening.
- .
- . Most importantly for me is the thanks that I owe to my lovely wife Kathy, for all the work she put into this and all the events this year. Her love is unquestionable, her counsel is invaluable, her taste is impeccable. She has been my best friend, my sidekick through good times and hard times, and the love of my life for over 44 years now. Thank you dear. I could not have done this without you.

Present Flowers

CLOSE

Worthy Brother Knights - I thank you for the confidence and trust you placed in me by electing me as your GK for this fraternal year. I am honored and grateful for the support you have given me and Kathy during this fraternal year. I am proud of the success we have achieved together this fraternal year.

Thank you Worthy State Deputy Raschke and Donna for honoring us with your attendance at our Awards dinner this evening. Thanks to Steve for the leadership you have provided the Virginia State Council Knights of Columbus this FY, for your service to the Knights of Columbus over the years, and for your kind remarks this evening.

Brothers, ladies and guests, thank all of you for attending tonight's 2016 Grand Knight's Awards Dinner. Please help yourselves to another piece of cake, or visit the bar for a final libation.

We are adjourned.