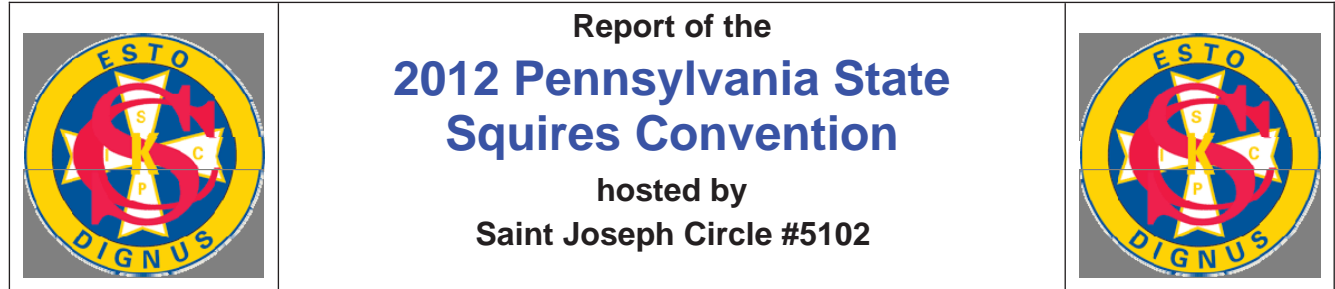


Thank You for your support of the PA Squires!!



The 55th Annual Pennsylvania State Squires Convention was held at Saint Joseph Parish in Mechanicsburg, PA on June 15th and 16th. Saint Joseph Circle #5102 hosted the event. Over twenty Squires plus adult counselors representing seven different Circles from the East, West, South, Northwest and Central Pennsylvania attended the 2012 Convention. Circles in attendance included #5102, Mechanicsburg, #5138, Natrona Heights, #5176, York, #5250, Harrisburg, #5309, Erie, #5444, Glenshaw and #5509, Kimberton. There were 21 active circles in Pennsylvania at the time of the convention with a number of others in various stages of formation.

The convention began on Friday evening with a Prayer service led by Father Prior Ed Schleicher followed by a cookout. Chief Squire Jonathon Stephens opened the meeting, a short business program including a review of State Circle programs and Circle reports from several Circles was held before adjourning for the evening for recreation and fraternity.

Saturday activities began with Morning Prayer and the Father Prior address. After breakfast the State Officers, Chief Squire Jonathon Stephens, Deputy Chief Squire Joe Marchi, Bursar Squire David Bludis and Notary Squire Michael Laher re-opened the general meeting with a roll call of circles and the final reading of nominations for State Circle offices. The morning session included workshops on conducting meetings, on-line reporting resources and circle planning.

Circle reporting was completed by those Circles who did not report on Friday. Many of the presentations made by the Squires on both days were done in PowerPoint and were both professional and informing. At the conclusion of the Circle reports, our guest speaker, Mr. John Cominsky, Principal of Saint Joseph school & future Chief Counselor of Circle #5102, spoke to this year's convention theme, "*Protecting Catholic Liberties & Values*" as related to Catholic youth. The talk and discussion was informative and relevant to today's events.

Mr. Larry Barkowski, State Youth Director & Squire Chairman elect, spoke to the future of the Squires in the state and the progress made on the major project initiated by Past Chief Squire Ben Jagger and the previous administration to the culmination this year of a Pennsylvania State Circle Award for Circles which contributed a minimum of \$100. Two Circles gave in excess of \$450 toward the State Project, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Five Circles were awarded the first Pennsylvania State Circle Award. Mr. Barkowski announced that this year a check will be presented by the State Circle to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for \$ 1,505.61.

The business meeting was concluded with the election of new officers. Chief Squire Joe Marchi (#5138 Natrona Heights), Deputy Chief Squire Luke Conover (#5509 Kimberton), Notary Robert Bratina (#5250 Harrisburg) and Bursar Nick Bratina (#5250 Harrisburg) were elected to serve the State Circle for the 2012-13 fraternal year beginning July 1st.

... SQUIRES of today are the KNIGHTS of tomorrow!

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A decision by Mr. Larry Barkowski, Mr. Mike Barkowski and Mr. Mike Yakubick, based upon the high caliber of the entrants, the 2012 Essay Contest Scholarship winners were, Joe Marchi, \$500 and Jonathan Stephens, \$300. The 2012 "Squire of the Year" was awarded to Jonathon Stephens. Saint Basil Circle #5509 had petitioned to host next year's convention in Kimberton. The convention closed on Saturday at 3 PM with the annual banquet. Father Prior Ed Schleicher celebrated Mass at 4 PM at the Chapel of Trinity High School for all those who were able to remain. Father directed his Homily toward Squires and was well received by all those in attendance. There is no doubt that Father Ed Schleicher not only is the best choice for State Father Prior, but that his dedication to Our Lord and youth should be an inspiration and aspiration to all of us, Squires & Counselors. Note photos that follow.

Pennsylvania State Squires Convention June 15 and 16, 2012

Schedule of Events

Friday, June 15

- 5:00 - 6:00PM - Registration
Brindle Hall
- 6:00PM - Prayer Service
Brindle Hall
- 6:45PM - Welcome, Dinner and Program
Brindle Hall/Kosar Park
- Introduction of dignitaries, counselors, and guests
- 7:45PM - Open Convention and General Meeting - State Circle
Brindle Hall
- Open nominations (1st reading)
- State Programs Reports (St. Jude's, Squires scholarships, etc.)
- 9:00PM - Recreation:
- Video Gaming Tournaments
Brindle Hall
- Volleyball/Basketball
Saint Joseph Gym
- 9:00PM - Counselors Meeting
Lee Horan Room
- 11:00PM - Depart to Trinity High School
- 12:00AM - Lights Out

Schedule of Events

Saturday, June 16

- 8:00 - 8:30AM - Registration - *Brindle Hall*
- 8:45AM Morning Prayer and Father Prior Address
Brindle Hall
- 9:15 - 10:00AM - Breakfast Buffet - *School Cafeteria*
- Continue - General Meeting - State Circle
Brindle Hall
- Roll Call of Circles
 - 2nd Reading of Nominations
 - Workshops and breakout sessions
 - Mock meeting and role reviews
 - Record keeping: filing audits, forms, application
 - Breakout Sessions: *Lee Horan Room*
Transition Seminar or Squire Advancement
- Counselors Meeting (as needed) - *John Paul II Room*
- 1:00 - 2:00PM - Banquet - *School Cafeteria*
- Continue - General Meeting - State Circle - *Brindle Hall*
- CS and CC Reports
 - Report of Activities - All Circles
 - Resolutions
 - Election of New Officers
- Awards and Drawings: Essay Contest, 'Squire of the Year'
- 4:00PM - Closing Mass - *Trinity High School Chapel*
Departure to home or ball game

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STATE OFFICERS OPENING MEETING



Father leading Prayer Service



Squire Circle 5250 report



Squire Circle 5138 report



Mr. Larry Barkowski, State Youth & Squire Director(elect)



Mr. John Cominsky, main speaker at convention

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Thank You for your support of the PA Squires!!



"Passing of the Gavel" Jonathon to Joe



A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS & TASTED GOOD TOO



All Columbian Squires attending the 2012 Pennsylvania State Squires Convention received a Squires drawstring backpack a commemorative program of the 55th Annual Convention, a St. Jude prayer card, a Saint Michael the Archangel mouse pad, "Esto Dignus" & Cross wrist bands. (several of the items pictured to left)



State Youth and Squires Chairman
Joe Korelko III
was unable to attend, but on behalf of all the Squires and Counselors, we wish to thank him for his service to the Youth & Squires of Pennsylvania.

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"Squire of the Year"
Jonathon Stephens



"SQUIRE of the BODY of CHRIST"
CANDIDATE EVAN PENNINGTON
with FATHER ED & CIRCLE #5444
"LIVING ROSARY" PROJECT



Scholarship winner Joe Marchi



2012-2013 State Circle Officers prepare to serve
(L-R) Robert Bartina, Luke Conover, Joe Marchi, Nick Bratina

State Officers and Dignitaries in attendance:

Larry Barkowski- State Youth and Squires Director (elect)

Father Ed Schleicher, State Father Prior

Timothy Laher, Counselor Circle #5309, Associate State Squires Chairman

Michael Barkowski, Counselor Circle #5138, Associate State Squires Chairman

Dr. Steven Conover, Counselor Circle #5509, Associate State Squires Chairman

Dr. Larry Zimmerman, Chief Counselor Circle #5176, Associate State Squires Chairman

Deacon Jack Paruso, Mike Casey, John Cominsky, Counselors Circle #5102

**Prepared and submitted by: Michael Yakubick, Convention Host
Chief Counselor Circle #5102, Associate State Squires Chairman**

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