

# 2014 Pennsylvania State Squires Convention



The 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Pennsylvania State Squires Convention was held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center and St. Joseph Parish in Mechanicsburg, PA, May 16<sup>th</sup> through May 18<sup>th</sup>. The Squire Circles of the Harrisburg Diocese hosted the event. Over thirty Squires representing nine different Circles from across the State plus adult counselors and State dignitaries attended the 2014 Convention.

Weekend activities began on Friday evening for out of town participants with an Evening Prayer service led by Fr. Ed Schleicher (State Father Prior) followed by introductions, a review of the weekend agenda, pizza and fellowship.

The 2014 Squires Convention officially opened on Saturday morning with Morning Prayer led by the State Father Prior and a welcome and introduction of guests and dignitaries by Associate State Chairman, Mr. Michael Yakubick. State Chief Squire Brett Becker called the meeting to order and introduced State Deputy Eric Johnson and State Youth and Squires Director Larry Barkowski for their comments. The meeting proceeded with the roll call of officers, circles and delegates.

Circles in attendance included #2020 Trinity Catholic, Verona, #5102 St. Joseph, Mechanicsburg, #5138 St. Joseph High School, Natrona Heights, #5176 St. Rose of Lima, York, #5250 Fr. Daniel Mahoney, Harrisburg, #5704 Buckingham, #5444 St. Mary's of the Assumption, Glenshaw, #5555 St. Michael, Waynesboro, and #5645 Trinity High School, Camp Hill. There were 21 active circles in Pennsylvania at the time of the convention and a total of 32 in various stages of activity or formation.

Senate Resolution No. 357 introduced by Senator Patrica H. Vance and adopted by the Pennsylvania Senate on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April designating May 12-18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 "State Squires Week" in Pennsylvania was on display.

General business followed with reports on State Circle programs and circle activities, and a first reading of nominations and applications for State officer positions. All circles in attendance presented a brief report on their circle activities. Many of the presentations made by the Squires were done in PowerPoint, as was the State Circle report. The Glenshaw Circle presentation even included a musical accompaniment. The new business topics addressed included: 1) advertising the Father McGiveny Guild to all Squires 2) the 2014 State Circle contribution to the St. Jude's Project, 3) increased communication between the State Circle and Circles in the state.

Activities resumed after lunch as members of Trinity High School Circle #5645 in Camp Hill presented their check in the amount of \$1,500 (top contributor) for the St. Jude's project and pushed the total amount raised for the project to over \$3500. The State Circle earlier approved the motion to donate up to \$500 to the State Circle charity as needed to bring the total contribution to St. Jude's to \$4000 for the year.

SFP Fr. Ed Schleicher and two Seminarians answered questions posed by both Squires and Knights in attendance. Breakout sessions on the Squire Advancement Program and transitioning from Squire to Knight followed. The group adjourned for the Convention Banquet.

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

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Following dinner, the business session was reconvened to elect officers for the upcoming year. Chief Squire Robert Bratina (#5250 Harrisburg), DCS Stephen Pater (#5138 Natrona Heights) Notary Nicholas Bratina (#5250 Harrisburg), Bursar Alex Skeba (#2020 Verona) were elected to serve the State Circle for the 2014-15 fraternal year beginning July 1st. Patrick Wood was appointed State Marshal Squire. David Puccio and Dan Bittner were appointed State Sentry Squires. All other appointed positions will be filled and named at the first meeting of the new fraternal year.

The 2014 State Squires Convention business session was closed by State Chief Squire Brett Becker at 6:35PM. The group moved to St. Joseph Church for Mass, Installation of Officers and the Awards Presentation.

After celebration of Mass, State Deputy Eric Johnson, Father Ed, Mr. Ray Newcomer, Mr. Charles Rice, Mr. Michael Pater, Mr. Donald Tappe and Mr. Yakubick all assisted in the installation of the newly elected Officers. State Circle Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all outgoing officers by Mr. Barkowski. Nick Polito (Cir. #5444) was named the recipient of the "2014 Charles J. Frank, Sr. Memorial Scholarship \$500". Dominic Santanasto (Cir. #5528) was the winner of the "2014 State Circle Essay Contest \$300" and Brett Becker was named the "2014 Squire of the Year" by the Pennsylvania State Circle. State Chief Squire Brett Becker and State Youth and Squire Director Mr. Barkowski presented KofC Certificates of Appreciation to the State Associate Squires Chairmen in attendance.

The Squires enjoyed free time and recreation until 10PM when the day was officially brought to a close with a Night Prayer service prepared by our Father Prior.

On Sunday morning Squires participated in an optional field trip and tour of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle during Army Heritage Days. The day allowed Squires to view the Army as it progressed, via re-enactors, from the French-Indian War to the present. The event was informative and educational with the added benefit of helping the Squires who attended meet requirements of the Squire Advancement Program. Several Squires were able to attend a Senator baseball game following the Carlisle event.

## State Officers and Dignitaries in attendance:

Eric C. Johnson – PA State Deputy

Father Ed Schleicher, State Father Prior

Lawrence Barkowski, State Youth and Squire Director

Michael Yalubick, Chief Counselor Circle #5645, Associate State Squires Chairman

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

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

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

Raymond Newcomer, Chief Counselor Circle #5444

William Bennett, Chief Counselor Circle #5555

Note the photos that follow.

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**2014 SQUIRE OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION**  
STATE YOUTH AND SQUIRES DIRECTOR LAWRENCE BARKOWSKI,  
STATE FATHER PRIOR FATHER ED SCHLEICHER, RECEIPIENT STATE CHIEF  
SQUIRE BRETT BECKER AND STATE DEPUTY ERIC JOHNSON



**TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL CIRCLE 5645, TOP CONTRIBUTOR TO THE  
SAINT JUDE HOSPITAL STATE PROJECT, PRESENTING CHECK TO  
STATE CHIEF SQUIRE BRETT BECKER IS SQUIRE PATRICK WOOD**

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**SPEAKERS & PRESENTERS**  
**A COLLAGE**

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STATE CHIEF SQUIRE (ELECT) & STATE CHIEF SQUIRE BRETT BECKER ACCEPTING THE PROCLAMATION DECLARING **STATE SQUIRES WEEK** IN PENNSYLVANIA. STATE SENATOR PATRICA VANCE, PRESENTING.



STATE CHIEF SQUIRE (ELECT) & STATE CHIEF SQUIRE BRETT BECKER PRESENTING STATE SENATOR PATRICA VANCE, A SMALL TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION.

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## 2014 Pennsylvania State Squires Convention



**CONGRATULATIONS TO CIRCLE 5444, THEIR  
MEMBERS & FATHER PRIOR ACCEPTING  
THE FIRST "ESTO DIGNUS" AWARD**



**SQUIRES AND COUNSELORS AT ARMY HERITAGE DAY**

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## 2014 Pennsylvania State Squires Convention



“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

**THANKING OUR YOUTH AND SQUIRE DIRECTOR,**

**MR. LARRY BARKOWSKI**

**FOR HIS SERVICE**

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