



Virginia Knights of Columbus

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Virginia Knights of Columbus elect new officers at 117th Annual Meeting; Present leadership awards to Knight of the Year, Family of the Year

(Williamsburg, VA) — Delegates representing Virginia's more than 28,000 Knights of Columbus gathered at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center May 5-7, and elected new officers who will take office on July 1, 2017. Awards were also presented in a variety of categories to local councils recognizing their charitable efforts over the past year.

Elected to the state's top office, State Deputy, was Stephen J. Kehoe of Fairfax City, where he has been an active member of Father Francis J. Diamond Council since 1988. He has worked in both the Telecommunications and Government Contracting arena for the past 24 years. He will succeed current State Deputy Michael J. Gasper, of Richmond, a retired transportation logistics executive.

Other officers elected at the convention are: State Secretary, Edward R. Polich, of Glen Allen; State Treasurer, Robert Szerszynski, of Montclair; State Advocate, Brian Ripple, of Roanoke; and State Warden, Mark Janda, of Fredericksburg. Officers of the Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus serve one year terms.

The state's Knight of the Year Award was given to George Kuhlow, of Saints Peter and Paul Council 11475 in Palmyra. The Family of the Year Award went to Victor and Elizabeth Naldoza, of San Lorenzo Council 12378 in Virginia Beach.

The winner of the Young Woman of the Year Award is Sarah Pattillo, of Fredericksburg. She was nominated by Battlefield Council 10246. Winner of the Young Man of the Year Award is David Halowski Murawski, nominated by Father Nicholas J. Habets Council 4632.

Program Award winners are:

Church Activity of the Year Award – Fort Belvoir Council 11170 in Fort Belvoir;

Community Activity of the Year Award – Fr. Robert W. McDonald Council 395 in Henrico;

Council Activity of the Year Award – St. Thomas More Cathedral Council 6790 in Arlington;

Family Activity of the Year Award – Saints Peter and Paul Council 11475 in Palmyra;

Youth Activity of the Year Award – Walter Pollard Council 5480 in Newport News;

Culture of Life Activity of the Year Award – Father Nicholas J. Habets Council 4632 in Virginia Beach.

More detailed information about the Virginia Knights of Columbus awards is available by sending an email to communications@vakofc.org, or by calling state communications director Patrick Korten at 703-450-4266.

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882 in New Haven, CT and now has nearly two million members worldwide. The Virginia state council was chartered in 1901.