# Knights of Columbus WV State Council



# WV By-Laws

## 116th West Virginia State Convention By-Laws

## Article I – Organization

#### Section 1

This body shall be known as the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Its jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the boundaries of the State of West Virginia. The powers of the State Council are set forth in the Charter, Constitution and laws of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. These by-laws shall in no way conflict with the Constitution, Laws, Rules, and Regulations of the Supreme Council or the Board of Directors.

#### Section 2

a) The West Virginia State Council shall consist of the following who have voice and vote:

1. The Supreme Knight, ex-officio.

- 2. The State Officers who shall be the State Deputy, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State Advocate, State Warden, and State Chaplain.
- 3. The Immediate Past State Deputy, provided, however, that when the Last Living Past State Deputy is actually residing in another state or jurisdiction, he shall thereby forever forfeit such right, and his nearest predecessor actually residing in West Virginia shall be entitled thereto.
- 4. The Grand Knight of each subordinate council in good standing.
- A delegate from each subordinate council in good standing who shall be elected from the Past Grand Knights of the council. A council having no Past Grand Knight eligible and willing to serve may elect any one of its third degree members in good standing.
- 6. Alternates, who serve in the absence of the Grand Knight or delegate, who shall be elected from the third degree membership of the council, but need not be Past Grand Knights.
- b) The West Virginia State Council shall also consist of the following who shall have voice (includes making motions) but do not vote:
  - 1. All Past State Deputies.
  - 2. All District Deputies.
  - 3. Chairmen (not more than twelve) of standing committees of the State Council may be members of the State Council by expressed provision in its by-laws, but with the right to speak only on questions pertaining to the functions of their particular committees and without the right to vote. Thus, standing committee chairmen who are granted limited State Council membership under its by-laws and who are not otherwise members of the State Council have the right to present committee reports and to speak on any question pertaining to their committee function. They do not have the right solely as such chairmen to make motions or nominations or to vote on any question.

#### Section 3

The West Virginia State Council shall be convened annually in May, each year and every year, at a place designated by the previous State Council. The Convention shall convene on the Saturday following Mother's Day. It shall be the duty of the State Secretary to forward to each council in the State written or electronic notice of the time and place of the meetings at least 30 days prior to said meeting by US Postage Service or by electronic means.

#### Section 4

The State Council, in convention assembled, shall discuss policies and programs, and endeavor to promote the general welfare of the Order, shall transact such business and enact such rules and regulations as may be consistent with the Charter, Constitution, and Laws of the Knights of Columbus.

#### Section 5

The State Secretary shall prepare and furnish five credential forms to the Financial Secretary of each council, at least six weeks prior to the meeting of the State Council.

#### Section 6

The Grand Knights of each subordinate council shall instruct the Financial Secretary to prepare and certify credentials of the Grand Knight, the delegate and alternates on the forms so furnished, and send one copy to the State Secretary at least two weeks

prior to the date of the annual meeting and shall deliver one copy to each Grand Knight, delegate, and alternate, who shall present same at said meeting.

#### Section 7

Temporary Roll Call of Delegates, The State Secretary shall prepare a roll of names of all Grand Knights, delegates, and alternates on the credentials presented to him prior to the calling to order of the meeting of said State Council and said roll shall be the roll of the State Council until the Committee on Credentials has submitted its report and the permanent roll determined by the action of the meeting on said report.

#### Section 8

Contest of delegates: In the case of a contest for a seat in convention, one member of each side may appear and make argument before the Committee on Credentials, each being allowed time not to exceed five minutes, except by special consent of the Committee. Said Committee's decision shall be the recommendation to the convention for the seat in the convention.

#### Section 9

Council in Arrears: Councils not having paid indebtedness owing to the Supreme Council or the State Council within the time required by law shall not be entitled to representation in the State Council.

#### Section 10

All Councils instituted prior to January 1 or July 1, shall not be liable for assessments levied by the State Council for the next succeeding half year following such institution.

#### Section 11

The State Deputy shall appoint Standing Committees, and the State Deputy shall appoint Special Committees when deemed necessary by him, or when directed by the action of the State Council. All Standing and Special Committees shall make reports to the State Deputy when directed by him, the reports shall be in writing and signed by the Committee Chairman.

The Standing Committees of the West Virginia State Council shall be as follows:

- a) Membership and Retention
- b) Family Activities
- c) Church Activities
- d) Community Activities
- e) New Council Development
- f) Ceremonials
- g) Culture of Life
- h) Athletic Events
- i) Publicity
- j) Website
- k) Keep Christ in Christmas
- I) Vocations

The Special Committees of the West Virginia State Council shall be as follows (the Directors of these committees shall submit reports in writing):

- a) Scholarship
- b) Mentally Handicapped Program

- c) Roundtables
- d) Catholic Schools Dinner
- e) Youth Activities
- f) Council Activities

g) Others as required or recommended by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council or the West Virginia State Council.

h) Keep Christ in Christmas

### Section 12

The following committees shall be appointed for operation during the State Convention only:

- a) Appreciation
- b) Audit and Budget
- c) Credentials
- d) Resolutions
- e) Good of the Order
- f) Warden's
- g) Tellers and Judges
- h) Mileage and Per Diem

#### Section 13

All meetings of the State Council shall be conducted in the Third Section, and a majority of the members of the State Council will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The State Warden, and his assistants as appointed by the State Deputy, shall ascertain if each third degree member has a signed paid-up membership card as he enters the chamber of each session of the State Convention.

#### Section 14

The State Deputy shall preside at all sessions of the State Council, performing the usual duties of Chairman. He shall be ex-officio, a member of all State Council Committees.

#### Section 15

All resolutions, petitions, recommendations of changes, and amendments of the By-Laws shall be submitted, in writing, to the State Secretary and State Advocate at least thirty days prior to the annual State Council meeting. These shall then be processed by the State Secretary and State Advocate and then referred to the Committee on Resolutions. Resolutions and petitions, which do not pertain to changes of the By-Laws should be presented in the same manner but in any case must be presented to the Committee on Resolutions prior to its report to the State Council. Resolutions and petitions, which as a matter of course are presented annually as part of the State Council proceedings shall be considered to have met these procedures.

#### Section 16

Speaking Limitations. When a member is about to speak, he shall rise and address the Chair. The presiding officer shall request the name of the member and the council he represents, who, when recognized, shall confine himself to the subject under consideration. No member shall speak more than once upon any question until all others who desire to speak have spoken. The State Deputy may set a time limit for each speaker.

Section 17

The roll shall not be called upon a demand for yeas and nays, unless requested by majority by vote of the members present.

#### Section 18

Except as otherwise provided herein and in the absence of a standing rule of the State Council or Supreme Council, Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the State Council sessions.

#### Section 19

The State Council shall have authority to levy, collect and enforce such assessments upon the subordinate council or membership in the State as it might deem necessary for the defraying of its legitimate expenses.

#### Section 20

The order of business of the State Convention shall be as follows:

- a) First Session
  - 1. Call to Order and Opening Ceremonies
  - 2. Report of the State Warden
  - 3. Opening Prayer
  - 4. Singing of the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States
  - 5. Singing of the Opening Ode
  - 6. Report of the Credentials Committee Chairman
  - 7. Roll Call by State Secretary
  - 8. Keynote Speech
  - 9. Announcements of meetings and various convention committees
  - 10. Reading of late communications
  - 11. Report of the State Deputy
  - 12. Call for acceptance of published reports of other State Officers, District Deputies, and Committee Chairmen, and Grand Knights
  - 13. Announcements
  - 14. Adjournment and Prayer

#### b). Second Session

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Report of State Warden
- 3. Opening Prayer
- 4. Pledge to Flag
- 5. Address
- 6. Report of Resolutions Committee
- 7. Further Reports of Convention Committees
- 8. Review of State Council Budget
- 9. Announcements
- 10. Adjournment and Prayer

#### c). Third Session

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Report of State Warden
- 3. Opening Prayer
- 4. Pledge to Flag
- 5. Unfinished Business
- 6. New Business
- 7. Report of Credentials Committee
- 8. Election of State Officers, Election of delegates, and alternates to the Supreme International Convention

- 9. Report of Appreciation's Committee
- 10. Report of Audit and Budget Committee
- 11. Report of Good of the Order Committee
- 12. Report of Scholarship Committee
- 13. Report of Other Committees
- 14. Announcements
- 15. Adjournments and Prayer

## **Article II – Finances**

#### Section 1

All money owing to the State Council shall be made payable to the West Virginia State Council Knights of Columbus (Specific Account) by a check, draft, or money order, and forwarded to the State Secretary <u>ONLY</u>. The State Secretary shall immediately record the same and forward to the State Treasure, who shall immediately deposit the same into the appropriate account. The forwarding council shall, at the same time, separately notify the State Treasurer, and special purpose Director as appropriate, of the date, amount and account of all monies forwarded to the State Secretary.

#### Section 2

All money of the State Council shall be deposited in depositories to the account of the West Virginia State Council. Special purpose accounts shall include identification of the special purpose. All accounts shall be subject to checks signed by the State Deputy or the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall be automatically bonded by the Supreme Council in the amount of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). No warrant on the State Treasurer shall be paid unless countersigned by the State Deputy.

#### Section 3

\_\_\_\_The State Council shall levy a per capita assessment on all subordinate Councils in the State of West Virginia. Such assessments shall be charged against each Council in proportion to the membership of such Council as of the 30th day of June each year. The State Secretary will use the Supreme Council Membership Insurance Progress Report dated July 1 to December 31st following the adjournment of the State Council. The State Secretary will notify each council of assessments due not later than July 31st. Such per capita assessment when levied shall continue in force and effect unless and until reduced or increased by the action of the State Council. Any subordinate Council in arrears for the per capita tax or any assessment properly levied shall be denied representation at the meetings of the State Council, and if such arrearage continues for sixty (60) days, the State Deputy shall have authority to suspend such delinquent councils.

#### Section 4

Allowances for Attendance and Services: The Grand Knight of each Council or his alternate, State Officers, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, and State Council Committee Chairmen, and others as designated by the State Deputy shall be allowed per diem and mileage for actual attendance at the annual State Convention. The expenses of the second delegate from each subordinate council shall be paid by his council. Mileage shall be allowed for automobile only, based on one-way mileage. Per Diem allowance shall not exceed two days. Actual mileage and per diem amounts shall be determined from time to time by resolution adopted at an annual State Convention.

#### Section 5

State Officers, State Council Committee Chairmen, and other designated by the State Deputy, shall be allowed mileage and per diem, as specified in Section 4, for actual attendance at other meetings called by the State Deputy. District Deputies shall also receive these allowances when not reimbursed by the Supreme Council. The expenses of a Grand Knight shall be paid by his council.

#### Section 6

Other Allowances. State Officers shall be allowed such compensation for the expenses of their respective offices as maybe determined by the State Council.

#### Section 7

The State Deputy shall direct the audits by an independent auditor are performed as required by the Supreme Council or governmental agency. Theses audits shall be conducted on all accounts held in the name of the West Virginia State Council. A copy of the written opinion, including financial statements, shall be made a part of the State Council proceedings. These audits are required by Section 56(b) of the Order's Laws and must be complied with.

## Article III – Elections

#### Section 1

The State Deputy, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State Advocate, State Warden and delegates and alternates to the Supreme Convention shall be elected annually by ballot, from the membership at large. The State Deputy in a manner acceptable with the Bishop of the Diocese shall appoint a State Chaplain.

#### Section 2

The nomination of candidates for State Deputy, other State Officers and delegates and alternates to the Supreme Convention of both the insurance and associate class shall be made. Only insurance members may be nominated as the insurance delegates. The number of insurance delegates shall be as determined by the Supreme Council. Insurance members are qualified for nomination as candidates for associate delegates. If at the time of the Supreme Convention, any such insurance or associate delegate, or his alternate is unable to attend the Supreme Convention, then in that event the selection of a delegate shall be made as provided for in the Charter, Constitution and laws of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

#### Section 3

Supreme Convention Alternates shall be elected by finishing as first runner up in the delegate election of the same position. Candidates appointed as alternates in this fashion may still run for other available positions. If at the completion of elections alternates have not been appointed an additional elections may be held as needed.

#### Section 4

Speeches presenting candidates for election to the Supreme Council shall not exceed five minutes in length. The seconding nominations shall be limited to the mere mention of the name of the candidate, the name of the person so seconding such nomination and the name of the council he represents.

#### Section 5

When votes are taken by ballot for the election of officers, delegates and alternates, the same shall be on a uniform size of white paper, the same to be furnished by the State Secretary.

#### Section 6

The State Deputy or presiding officer shall appoint Tellers to receive, sort and count the votes, and report the result to the chair.

#### Section 7

When only one candidate is nominated for a State Office, or only a number of candidates equal to the number of delegates or alternates to be elected to the Supreme Council are nominated, the State Deputy may direct the State Secretary to cast the unanimous ballot of the State Council for such candidate or candidates who may then be declared duly elected.

#### Section 8

In all cases of election to any office in the State Council, a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect, except that when several of equal degree are to be elected, as delegates or alternates.

#### Section 9

Officers right to vote. The State Deputy, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State Advocate, State Warden, State Chaplain, and the Immediate Past State Deputy (as defined in Article 1, Section 2(a)(3)) shall have the right to vote. Should the Supreme Knight be present, he also has the right to vote.

#### Section 10

The terms of all State Officers shall be for one (1) year, beginning on the first day of July and ending on the thirtieth of June of the next succeeding year.

#### Section 11

District Deputies shall be appointed in accordance with the Supreme Council Rules.

#### Section 12

All other living Past State Deputies shall be members of the State Council and shall enjoy the same privileges as the Immediate Past State Deputy, with the exception of the right to vote.

## Article IV – Duties of Officers

#### Section 1

State Deputy. The duties of the State Deputy shall be defined by the Charter, Constitution and laws of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

#### Section 2

State Secretary. The State Secretary shall cause to keep a true and faithful record of the proceedings of the State Council. He shall notify each subordinate council of assessments due, not later than July 31st. He shall not place the names of any delegates or alternates on the roll call unless their respective councils have paid duly levied assessments according to the procedure set forth in theses By-Laws. He shall prepare and furnish credential blanks to the Financial Secretaries of each subordinate council, together with a bill of assessments remaining unpaid, not later than April 1st of each year. He shall forward to each council notification of the place of and date of the annual State Meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to said meeting. Credentials, which indicate the place and the date of, said meeting shall meet the notification requirement. He shall prepare a roll of names of all delegates and alternates from the credentials furnished to him prior to the calling to order of the State Council, and shall refer said roll to the Committee on Credentials. He shall prepare and send credentials to all living Past State Deputies entitled to membership. He shall maintain registers for each account in the name of West Virginia State Council. He shall, immediately upon receipt of moneys forward to the State Treasurer, and duly note the same in the proper account register. He shall prepare vouchers for disbursements from any account and record them in the register for the proper account.

He shall receive and pass on to the State Advocate all petitions, resolutions and amendments of any nature. Resolutions shall include all those adopted at the previous State Convention, including the year of initial adoption.

#### Section 3

State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay all money orders drawn upon him by the State Secretary. He shall deposit all moneys as outlined in Article II, Section 2, and shall keep accurate records of same as set forth by the Supreme Council. He shall maintain separate registers for each account of the West Virginia State Council. He shall, immediately upon receipt, deposit all moneys forwarded to him in the proper register. He shall record all disbursements in the register for the disbursing account.

#### Section 4

State Advocate. The State Advocate shall be the attorney of the State Council in case of trail and investigation of any matter whatsoever of interest to the State Council. He shall receive from the State Secretary, a copy of all resolutions, petitions, and amendments which are to be presented at the State Council and after due consideration of same, these shall be referred to the Committee on Resolutions without debate. He shall forward to the Supreme Secretary all resolutions adopted at the State Convention pertaining to revision of the State Council By-Laws, and additional resolutions that seek Supreme Council or Board consideration. Those resolutions shall be forwarded within ten (10) days of the Convention in accord with Section 22 of the Order's Constitution. He shall have prepared and sent to the Financial Secretary of each subordinate council, not later than the first day of June, forms for the reporting of the name and address of Council Officers elected for the coming year. He shall prepare and cause to have available a report of the proceedings of the State Council Annual and Mid-Year Meetings, said report to be certified by the State Deputy. A copy of the Annual Report shall be distributed to each council at the time of the Organizational Meeting, and the printed copy of the proceedings of the Mid-Year Meeting distributed to the same at the time of the Annual Meeting.

#### Section 5

State Warden. The State Warden shall have custody of all property belonging to the State Council. He shall check travel cards at all State Meetings and shall admit no one but delegates and alternates and those others so entitled to the privilege of the floor, except by permission of the State Council.

#### Section 6

Representatives to the Supreme Council. These delegates shall, to the best of their ability, promote all actions of the Supreme Council that will best serve the interests of the Knights of Columbus as a whole and the State of West Virginia in particular.

#### Section 7

The State Chaplain shall have complete charge of any matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the State Council.

#### Section 8

District Deputies shall perform all duties as required by the Supreme Council and the State Deputy. In addition, they shall attend the regular meetings of the State Council and make a written report of the conditions and activities of their respective districts.

#### Section 9

The immediate Past State Deputy, actually residing in the State of West Virginia, shall assist the State Deputy. All other Past State Deputies are entitled to serve on committees as appointed by the State Deputy.

#### Section 10

Additional Duties. In addition to the above listed duties, the State Officers shall do and perform any additional duties of their office, which the State Council or the State Deputy may direct.

## Article V – Miscellaneous

#### Section 1

Activity Program. To the best of its ability, the State Council shall conduct annually a program as outlined by the Supreme Council.

#### Section 2

Annual Communion. To insure that each member of the Knights of Columbus fulfills his religious obligation, it is recommended that the members of each Council approach Holy Communion in a body during Easter on a date set by each council.

#### Section 3

Appointing of Committees. The State Deputy in his discretion, in appointing his various committees, may draw upon Past State Deputies and other third degree Knights in good standing. It being the desire of the State Council to in some way induce and perpetuate participation by the Past State Deputies in the activities of our Order and to involve new participation in the same.

#### Section 4

Charitable Fund. That a sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) be set aside annually for a charitable fund. This fund may be disbursed at the discretion of the State Deputy in amounts not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), for a total of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) annually for worthwhile purposes. The State Council assembled must approve disbursements in excess of these amounts. The State Deputy shall report on disbursements and make it a part of the fund audit. This fund is not to exceed a total accumulation value of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00).

#### Section 5

Program Burse. That a sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) be set aside annually for a "Program Burse". This fund may be used at the discretion of the State Deputy for programs that promote Columbianism ideals within West Virginia. The State Council assembled must approve disbursements in excess of this amount. The State Deputy shall report on disbursements and make it part of the fund audit. This fund shall not exceed a total accumulation value of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00).

## Article VI – By-Laws

#### Section 1

How Amended. These By-Laws or any part thereof may be amended or repealed at any meeting of the State Council by a two-thirds vote, and such amendments or repeal shall be effective when duly approved by the Supreme Board of Directors. These By-Laws not in conflict with the laws of the Supreme Council, or any part thereof, may be suspended at any meeting by unanimous consent.

#### Section 2

When Effective. The West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, in its annual meeting assembled in Chlarksburg, West Virginia, on May 19th and 20th 2018 do hereby repeal all By-Laws heretofore adopted or existing together with amendments thereto and parts thereof, and do hereby enact and adopt the foregoing By-Laws of the West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, and the adoption of which shall become effective and the above repeal shall be considered in force upon the approval thereof by the Supreme Board of Directors, and authority is hereby vested in the elected State Officers of this Council or a majority thereof to conform, change or add to these By-Laws in such a manner and in such respects as will meet the approval and direction of the said Supreme Board of Directors.

By-Laws Committee: Brian Gordon, DD # 1 Doug White, GK Council 872 Rick Corbin, GK Council 10011

Adoption Moved By: Gerald Schmidtt, PSD, VSM Seconded By: Dick Sepkowski, PSD

Passed May 20, 2018

Approved as corrected, by vote of the Supreme Council Board of Directors at its meeting in August 2017

#### Saturday Morning Session, 5/19/2018

State Deputy Scott Nale called the 116<sup>th</sup> annual West Virginia State Convention to order at 9:00AM.

State Warden Dave Torlone was asked to check all membership cards. He reported that all present were duly qualified members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree in good standing,

State Church Activities Director, Deacon Helgi Nelson offered the opening Prayer. State Deputy Nale led the convention in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The State Deputy recognized Worthy PSD-Richard Sepkowski, who rose to make a motion that all members in good standing who are not delegates be allowed to stay in meeting without voice as observers. The motion was seconded by John Lease.

Gerry Somazze PSD, led the brothers in singing the Opening Ode.

The State Secretary Paul Niedbaiski called PSD Junior Bacco for a report of the credentials. He asked to be allowed to defer the report until after the reading of the roll Call.

State Secretary Paul Niedbaiski proceeded to call the roll of State Officers, General Agent, District Deputies, Chairman, Program Directors, Past State Deputies, and all Council Grand Knights or representatives.

Comments and Video from our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson was shown. It was very good, spoke of \$18 Million to the Middle East for persecuted Christians and rebuilding of Churches and other Holy sites. He spoke of all the great work the Knights are doing and reported we need younger members. The youth needs to carry on our work.

State Chaplain Rev.John Rice could not attend the Convention due to a weeding he was to preside over. His talk was brought to us over the Internet on the Projector screen. Very well done might I add. Father Rice said;

Worthy State Deputy, Worthy Past State Deputies, Worthy Supreme representative, Worthy Grand Knights, Brothers all. Good morning! It is my joy to greet you and offer my prayers for your gathering. Please accept my apologies for not joining you in person this morning, but I have a wedding here that requires my attendance. No, it is not the same wedding that your wives are following today, but the groom is a Knight!

Since our meeting falls on Pentecost weekend, why don't we begin with the prayer to the Holy Spirit? Please join me from your seats ... Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth!

Thank you. I hope you pray that prayer regularly. I know it is my go to prayer! And so appropriate for today. But the problem with that prayer, and with the feast of Pentecost itself, is that we have to actually be ready for the Holy Spirit to work through us! We have to actually mean what we pray!

Do you remember Dr. Martin Luther King? Specifically, I am thinking about his "I have a dream" speech. Most adult Americans are familiar with at least a portion of it. I was blessed to have a friend who attended that gathering, and he has shared with me the power of that event; how this one man made so much of an impact on so many people. As we remembered Dr. King a few weeks ago, I started wondering what would it be like to change the world? What would it take to change the world? How would that make you feel?

Stories abound about individuals who took on one simple task, and their commitment to that task changed everything not only about them, but about the world around them.

Changing the world ... Is that not our task as Catholic Christian Gentlemen? Is that not our task as Knights of Columbus? Yet accomplishing great change feels out of reach to so many of us. Change the world? That's out of my league! Change the world? That is for heroes -- And  $\underline{I}$  am not a hero. Let's face it, most of us, including myself, think of ourselves as ordinary people. But, gentlemen, we are more than ordinary people. We are Christians endowed with God's gift of the Holy Spirit. We are Catholic leaders as well as Knights of Columbus. And THAT, my dear brothers, means that we DO have the power to make a difference.

What does it take to change the world? Ask Ned Sawyer's, whose devotion and commitment raised enough money to package 10,000 meals to be sent to the hungry! Or ask Council 594, who bought and distributed all of the coats that their regional Catholic charities needed to keep children warm this past winter. Or ask Deacon Doug White about the impact that bringing the Silver Rose to West Virginia has had on him personally, let alone the hundreds of lives that have been touched because of that devotion. Or the Brother who told me about working personally with Special Olympics. That is but a small sampling of how Knights that YOU KNOW have made a difference right here in West Virginia.

When you do talk to these men, you will discover is that each of them was following their call to be a strong Catholic Gentleman. Each of them was doing one simple task to serve a brother or sister who found themselves in need. And while <u>WE</u> might call them "Everyday Heroes," they would say that they were doing nothing extraordinary.

Do you know what else they will say? they will tell you that the life they changed the most -- was their own. It is universally true that whenever we reach out to help another person, we look back and find that it was I myself who most benefitted. I grew in my faith because I reached out to someone else. I grew in character because I dared to take a risk at the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

At this point, since I am talking to men who are leaders, my guess is that you already know all of this! Now imagine this: what if you could get 10 men in your council to think this way? Or convinced just one more Catholic gentleman to join you in what you already think of as important work? What if you had A different member who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to accept responsibility for each program? One for membership, one for Finance, one for building the domestic church, one for coats for kids, one for seminarian support, and another for 40 cans for Lent? What if we were open enough to the movement of the Holy Spirit in our councils to host one event each year that helped young families draw closer to Christ?

Can we even imagine inviting the Holy Spirit to animate us in the task of leadership? Or the task of being a Council? In doing so, we would see our Faith in Action. I believe that this is what our world needs. This is what the Catholic community in West Virginia needs. Men

that not only dare to dream, but that ask the Holy Spirit to move them and to move mountains.

The great theologian, Thomas Aquinas, did have that kind of imagination. He recognized that it was the Eucharist that fed him for his daily tasks and the Holy Spirit who animated him and the whole church. That inspired him to compose the prayer called "Anima Christi." What a powerful combination! The Eucharist and the Holy Spirit ... our nourishment and our inspiration.

Brothers, it is most appropriate that we gather for our annual convention on this Pentecost weekend. For we gather not to review paperwork, but to ask God that we be moved by His Spirit in the work that we do throughout the year, empowering even the seemingly mundane tasks to be great works of charity!

And I can assure you my dear friends, that if you have the courage to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit; if you have the courage to be **open** to the power of the Holy Spirit that God wants to pour out upon you today, I can assure you that new life will be poured out in great abundance upon you and every work that you invite under the tongues of fire that are descending upon this gathering today!

Brothers, I look forward to seeing how your Faith is stirred into Action this year! I look forward to the blessing that our Knights will be to the people of this great state because they allowed the Holy Spirit to drive their every word and deed! Come Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful! Come Holy Spirit, and WE shall be created anew! Come Holy Spirit, and YOU shall renew the face of the earth!

Vivat Jesus!

Father John received a Standing Ovation.

State Deputy Scott Nale gave his report of the State Deputy; He welcomed all and mentioned great attendance there was not an empty seat.

What a year of success; Our Retreat collected 1000lbs. of Potatoes, Cross Country Catholic prepared 40,000 meals, 4,000 for WV and 36,000to other nations that need to feed their people, #9 overall new members #1 in our District, A new Council in Morgantown, Star Council report looking good, New council coming to Huntington, Agent staff at full Strength. Councils, 7 councils making Star Council, 11 District Deputies now.

Steps to improve; Represented by the Trinity, Meet with Agents, Continue growth in our State Council.

New Incentives; E-membership, Reconfigure program layout, invite lost Brothers to rejoin us, Develop team to reach out to Spanish speaking men and develop opportunities for them.

Continued initiatives; State wide retreat, Digital outreach, additional help for Cross Country Catholic, we have \$ 4,000 of the \$11,000 we need, New member letters, WVU Raffle, Football Frenzy, Seminarian Support,\$11,00 to WV Catholic Schools, \$ 5,000 to Seminarians.

Scott told everyone about the forms in your folders witch are important for the State Council; SP-7Application, License plate applications, Directory information forms, Retreat flyers, Contact cards, various Committee reports, Faith in Action.

Scott asked us to keep up the good work, Continue State Programs, Help find New leaders, Need 1 new DD ( this makes 11), Multiple Chairman, 11 District wardens, Please find your replacement.

Vivat Jesus!

Short Break was taken.

The State Deputy Scott Nale introduced Supreme Representative Robert Ennis DCG. He has a wife and 3 children. They had to stay in Connecticut due to some activities they must attend. He started by thanking all in attendance. Noted he could not let his children stay home unsupervised. I am the Director of Canadian Growth and wondered if WV had been moved to Canada when he got his assignment to come to WV State Convention. Have to say it is quite an honor to be here. Oute a privilege to be in WV where so many good things are going on. We have heard from the State Deputy, State Chaplain and Field Agent about the good things going on in WV. It is a lot to celebrate and you guys have a lot to celebrate being in a top preforming Jurisdiction in North America. It is quite an accomplishment and I know you will get to #1 and make Circle of Honor. You have a State Deputy and State Leadership Team committed to helping you to get there. I got a chance to say hello to many of you last night and have some lengthy conversations with some of you. It was gratifying to see the commitment to the K of C and love for the K of C. it is that which gives me the confidence that you will get to where you want to be on 6-30-18, that Circle of Honor. It seems to be the standard you have set here in WV and that is a great standard to set. It is your Benchmark and we wish everyone could get to this and have the good things you have going on in WV. You have an active and engaged State Chaplain, State Deputy and Leadership Team committed to success and a real partnership between the fraternal leadership and the Agency leadership. As both Scott and Mike will tell you, it doesn't happen in every place but where it does happen, that is where magic happens. So there is a lot of good things to talk about here in WV. I was looking at numbers and one jumped out at me to demonstrate how critical it is to keep driving forward. Membership on 7-1-17 was 5,614 and on 5-1-18 membership was 5,626 net result of 12 Knights. It is a lot of hard work to recruit enough members to cover those who died. Supreme knows this, but it is critical we bring in more young men so this order continues to grow. We need to build a deeper leadership bench, we will be looking at adding District Wardens to 11 Districts. We need good quality young men such as Morgantown but not just Morgantown willing to carry on the Mantle. So we know our work needs to go on. Our work and what we do touches so many lives. In 2017 the Charitable Contributions were record level. We of following Father McGivney's legacy to protect families. Hope you bring to your councils the good word and importance of Insurance, we had 8.8 Billion Dollars last year and were up to 100.9 Billion now which puts us in the Fortune 500 rating.

A couple of Supremes priorities I would like to share with you are long term sustained ability of K of C, We are at a critical juncture now. We are starting Focus Groups and Listening sessions with young Catholic men, to find what we are doing that is working and what is not working. To get feedback to share with Supreme use <u>fateranalmission@kofc.org</u> I talking to people we have a strong recognition of K of C however younger men are reluctant to join. They have a basic lack of through knowledge for the K of C but a vague knowledge of Programs of what we do. They are hesitant to join us so we need to inform, educate and involve them of our Mission. Are we using all vehicles available to us to get Knowledge out there. Such as Church Bulletin, Social Media, and just talking to people. One thing we found out we need to involve the Family. Are we walking the walk as leaders in our Church and Community? We need more family oriented Programs that involve the wife and children. We need to find new ways to do things and be open to change. We need to improve education, communication and awareness of what the K of C do. A good source is the "Everyday Heroes" on our website. Try to reach out to young men and do events that include other young men. They can join on line, get messages and us our website for information. Try to involve strong young men to be strong leaders. Meet with your Pastor on a regular basis and try to do programs to attract young men. There work life is demanding, we need to give the young men an opportunity to lead, engage, and be active in the K of c. Be a good role model to encourage participation of the K of c. Father McGivney began helping the needy at the age of 25, who started the K of C at the age of 29, he became a priest at the age of 31 and died at the age of 38. Father McGivney had vision and determination as a young man. The K of C can feed the soul of young men to help them grow. The K of C are the men that accomplish the needs of the Church and the Community. Vivat Jesus!

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced Ned Sawyer who spoke of the Cross Catholic Charities. He started by saying "Feeding the Poor is Food for the Soul". The project was run by C.C. for the K of C. The original goal was to have \$ 20,000 in donations to start. When they reached \$ 11,000 it was thought that would be a great Goal for 40,000 meals with the \$11,000 and do it in Phases. Faith without Good Works is dead. The Scriptures say we need to take care of the poor, they will always be with us. Supreme thought this was a good project and they sent a filming crew from Chicago to our warehouse. It was a great surprise to me. I have always wanted to help the poor but was reluctant because of some fat cat stealing our money. I work hard for Money. My Mother and Father had great faith and always taught to do good works for the poor. They did this by actions not words. Ned wanted to help the poor. a priest from C.C.C. came to his Parish and spoke of this program and thought the K of C might be the right conduit for this task. He said this is what I have been looking for. He spoke to his Council and they thought it was too large for his small Council. So he met with the State Council officers. They gave Ned the Ok and promised support. Although they wanted to do it as a Council function not a State Function. Cross Catholic Charities joined in and it was off and running. When we reached \$ 11,000 C.C.C. shipped in all the product. Ned needed a hall Gymnasium size, for 20 six foot tables and 150 Volunteers. They made 40,000 meals WOW!!!. Day one we sent up the Hall. Day two prepared the meals and cleaned up. Day 3 C.C.C. sent a truck and picked up 36,000 meals. C.C.C. will send shipments to disaster areas and needy areas of 243 countries that have people starving to death. It was our responsibility to distribute 4,000 packages went to families in WV. There is no middle Man- No corruption individuals pocketing the Money. He showed a Package that feeds a family of 4 and is good for 2 years. It contains rice, soy, beans and a vitamin pack. The WV meals are a little different and are more palatable for WV folks. You simply add it to Boiling water. It is designed for people of malnutrition. According to the latest data 1 in 6 children in WV go to bed hungry. Women are starving themselves in Yemen to feed their children. One women in all her Religious Dress only weighted 94 lbs. My hope would be that other Churches will implement this program.

C.C.C. is safe 4.5% is budgeted for operations. Not many organizations can claim that. 200 volunteers came. WV National Guard gave us the facility in Kingwood to do this packaging for no cost. Most facilities wanted money for the use of their facility. Ned named several Councils that came to help, people of all different faiths in the Community came to help. C.C.C. sent 2 folks to help and show us how to do it. Started with a short talk and prayers. Everyone had a wonderful time. We sang hymns. We even got a new K of C Member. Phase 2 already has \$ 4,000 for a start. They need money. If a business donates, they will get a letter of appreciation and a Tax deferral form. St. Johns in Morgantown has volunteered to do Phase 2. Ned received a Standing Ovation from the Convention. Scott thanked Ned for his work and said it was an awesome experience.

Asked all to attend Phase 2.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced the State Program Director Mike McDougle. Mike spoke of the new "Faith in Action". The "Surge for Service" which was around for about 50 years, our old one did well. The new program is simpler. We can reach around the world to help people but we must help people next door also. Realize that while our mission remains the same unchanged Building a Domestic church is part of faith in Action. We are trying to implement Faith in Action by July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is a new Model for a new age and we must change with it. Our programs must change with the change of times. It is based on our Churches having quality faith Programs that we become a part of. It's an evolution. Building a Domestic Church is still a part of the new Faith in Action. It did not go away. Programs are built into faith in Action and some are retired. Faith in action website should be up and running in July. Model is 4 programs; Faith, Family, Community and Life. Our goal is to strengthen our men and their families in their Faith. Bringing Council activities back to the Parishes.

Programs that fall into Faith are; Spiritual Reflection (new-Required), RSVP, Building a Domestic Church Kiosk and Series, Marion Icon Prayer, Rosary Program, Holy Hour (New), Sacramental Gifts (new), Into the Breach.

Programs for Family are; Consecration of the Holy family (new, required), Food for families (featured), Keep Christ in Christmas, Family Fully Alive, Family of the Month/year, family Week, Family Prayer Night (new), Good Friday Family Promotion (new).

Programs for Community are; Helping hands (required), Coats for Kids (featured), Global Wheelchair Mission (featured), Habitat for Humanity (featured), Catholic Citizen Essay Contest, Disaster Preparedness, Free Throw Championship, soccer challenge.

Programs for Life are; Novena for Life ( new, required), Marches for Life (featured), Special Olympics (featured), Ultrasound Initiative (featured), Cristian Refugee Relief, Silver Rose, Mass with People with Special Needs (new), Pregnancy Center Support ( New).

Copy in your folder of FAQ on this Change. Please read it. As Knights we are called to support our Faith, families, Community and Life. It is what we have been doing. 4 Categories in each Program are needed for the Columbian Award. Featured Programs count for 2 of the 4. There required Programs in each category. There are still featured Programs. SP-7 will update soon. 365 is updated.

We are reminded of our State Deputies Theme we are trying to save the Starfish one Starfish at a time.

Bob Ennis spoke on Mike's talk. The idea is quality not quantity. If you are doing a Program and it is working for your council continue it. Any program that works with your pastor and your Church please continue it. Don't anticipate this won't change. If you have Programs or suggestions please let supreme know. We want to have feedback. We want to know what we did right and what we did wrong. The Idea is to take the K of C out of the council home and into the Parish.

Meetings for Various Convention Committees will meet during Lunch.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced Carmen Romano, Mentally Handicap Chairman. Carmon thanked Scott and all in attendance. Carmen asked everyone to look at his Letter in their folder. From May 2017 to May 2018. Out of the 23 Councils that have been active and are registered in this Program we only had 9 of 49 Councils participate this year. That is down 4 Councils from last year. This is not good. Our Prime Virtue is Charity. You can't ask for a simpler program than to handout Tootsie Rolls. Our goal should be active in this Program

that every Council should be involved. I would like to look over the account from last year to this one. Last year we had \$96,266.61 in May of 2017. This May we have \$95,316.48. 18 checks were sent this year. \$ 23, 728.08 Can be directed through grants submitted from councils. 85% of the money State keeps is used for Grants. The Money the Councils want to give the Money to, there is a separate form you send to Carmen. He will in turn make your check out to the group you picked and send it to your GK. These presentations can be made however the Council sees fit. At Clarksburg we have a dinner and pass out the checks there. Looking at income from this year was \$ 18.622.39 that is down \$12.442.92. So for whatever reason we made \$12,000 less this year. That is not acceptable. Total distribution this year was \$ 15,959.52 and Council Distributions of \$ 14,959.52. This is down \$ 7,843.23. Income was down and distribution was down. It is very difficult for me to understand why the drop in funds due to the ease of this Program. State distribution was \$ 1,000 donated to the State Games. There were around \$225 in expenses. Two Grants were approved last night at the meeting with the CMHF Committee, State Officers & DD's. The total of the two grants were 4 10,671. One went to Russell Nesmith Foundation from the Wheeling Council and the other was to the WV Autism Support Center from the Elkins Council. Out of the Distributions we did make \$ 4175.72 went to the Special Olympics which included \$ 1,000 from the State Council. Here again this is down \$ 4,000 from last year. We need to urge to get Knights to get more involved than this. It is very simple. Order Tootsie Rolls, stand in front of Walmart and collect money. All forms are in the folder and on the website. Carmen explained the forms. If he orders 33 cases shipping is free. Clarksburg Council usually has cases in reserve. They will work with you if you need some just call Carmen and have a check. Carmen thanked all for their support. Please talk to your Councils and try to get more involvement. State Advocate reported the Morgan County School Board is going to give 12191 a Certificate of appreciation next week. He also stated how easy this Program is to do and make funds for Intellectually Disabled.

State Deputy Scott Nale asked Dominic Bacco if the Credential Committee had a count of voting Delegates. He reported 57. Scot noted this was per one vote one delegate, two votes per two Delegates.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced Anthony Paletta, the Scholarship Chairman. Anthony welcomed all. He reported the Scholarship Committee met last night and received 10 applicants for the State scholarship. The deadline for the Scholarship is April 15<sup>th</sup>. He checked all postmarks and sent them to the committee members. They determined the Scholarship recipient of 2018 is Dillion J. McCula from Clarksburg Council 872. Dillion is a Third Degree Member. His Dad is a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree of our Assembly. He graduated from High School this year and is going to WVU next year. 10 Applicants, 2 points separated first place. Second place was a tie. We are getting quality applicants requesting this money. I think the largest request is coming from Charleston Catholic. We had one applicant who was going to Wheeling Jesuit, come to find out he is going to Pittsburg. So he will not be acceptable. It has been suggested to move the deadline to February 15th or end of month. It will allow Committee to have more time to go through the Applications. We will send a Resolution to the committee to move this date. Anthony will send a mailing to every catholic High School in the State, with a letter and instructions. This is also sent to the GK and FS. Please check your email address is correct to the Directory. It is every Knight's responsibility to make all seniors of your Council that this is available. Get the word out Please! Please remember in order to be eligible you must be a Knight, Your Father was a Knight or a Deceased Father was a Knight. Grandfathers do not count. Wheeling Jesuit Scholarship is only for those attending Wheeling Jesuit. This Scholarship is good for 4 years. It is \$ 750 per year.

State Deputy Scott introduced Church Activates Director Rev. Helgi Nelson. Rev. Nelson welcomed all and commenced to say; Thanks for all your energy. Silver Rose is dear to his heart. The State of WV gets the Silver Rose for about 4 weeks. Middle of July to the Middle

of August. We try to give the Thomas, Elkins, and Weston Councils their preference due to a 90 mile run from Parsons to Elkins to Weston during the summer. This is a Relay Run. There are young men that actually carry the Silver Rose. The symbol of our Lady of Guadalupe. I you would like to participate in this event please get in touch with Frank Koenig. Then we have a retreat in late September which is near and dear to our State Deputy, it enhances our spirituality. I missed it this year, I was in Houston on a Fema detail. Judging from the conversations I've had it was very good. That is Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> thru the 21<sup>st</sup>. You can reach me at my home phone number in the Directory. That is 304-258-2319. The e mail address is correct. I would like to enhance on our PSD talk of the new programs. It goes to the heart of what Father was telling us today that as Christ tells us to pray unceasingly. In our actions and works we are praying unceasingly. That brings me the Holy Hour programs. It could help stop the fights we have at our Council Meetings. Just think if we had a Holy Hour just before our meetings it would set the tone for good Catholic men. Reach out to your Deacons or the Deacon of the parish next door. They just love to get out and do these things and are sometimes are available. Even if you have no clergy available, a lay person can lead an Adoration and expose the Blessed Sacrament with your Priest's permission. The evenings are great for the evening prayers or liturgy of the hours. Bring your family and invite other parishioners to it. That would be a fantastic program. With all that said, I was in Winchester last week and they had a program that telling us about the Doctors view of "end of life" stages. They had three Drs. I thought it was going to be about your documentation, wills etc. It gave us the Doctors view of what happens in these different stages of "end of life". The first one was a trauma doctor. He is the one who sees the crashes and other catastrophes in the emergency room, all ages. The next one was the cardio pulmonic, which basically the one who talks to the family about the life support on a family member. The third one was more of a geriatric one for old folks dyeing of old age or a terminal illness. The one that was really profound was the trauma surgeon, who when he had a patient of any age, he would get a patient that would ask " am I going to die"? When started he was very uncomfortable saying to the patient "yes you are going to die". He felt he should be honest with them. He would say "yes you are going to die". Then he says a calm comes over that person and the regrets would come out. He called it reconciliation. That is how he described it. Some would say I wish I was a better person, I would have spoken to my family more. Spoken to family members I had feuds with. These are things that come out before you die. So it is important how we as Catholic Gentlemen on who we are and what we should be. There are others that talk about the doom and gloom that we need to be prepared. It's more about how you live your lives because you never know when that last moment will come. So I wanted to share this with you. How people who know they are going to die react. They start thinking about what could have been. If you have any questions please see me.. I was asked by Brother John Lease if we could pray the Angelus. This is traditional noon time prayer. State Secretary Paul Niedbalski asked to have the floor to speak of necrology. He stated that Knights that were worker bees and not officers should be remembered at Council level at a Mass at your church. We only received three names for the necrology list. We have a list here for anyone who knows of a deceased officer this year to please put them on the list. We must send a letter to the family of someone being honored. Brother John Lease led us in the Angelus.

Break for Lunch. Several committees met at the lunch break.

State Deputy Scott Nale asked the doors be shut and State Warden to check membership cards. A few announcements while checking cards; June 15 is last date for shirt orders, Banquet will be in this room so you must gather your things after the meeting, all folks speaking must stay on schedule please. State Warden Dave Torlone said all members are in position of a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree card.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced State Advocate Mike Stanger. Mike said the Resolution Committee met at lunch. He indicated any changes must be submitted by April 15. We have several. Please follow in your Directory or follow closely. These are the following changes; Article 1

#### Section 3

The West Virginia State Council shall be convened annually in May, each year and every year, at a place designated by the previous State Council. The Convention shall convene on the Saturday following Mother's Day. It shall be the duty of the State Secretary to forward to each council in the State written or electronically notice of the time and place of the meetings at least thirty days prior to said meeting by US Postage Service or Electronically.

#### Section 11

The State Deputy shall appoint Standing Committees, and the State Deputy shall appoint Special Committees when deemed necessary by him, or when directed by the action of the State Council. All Standing and Special Committees shall make reports to the State Deputy when directed by him, the reports shall be in writing and signed by the Committee Chairman.

The Standing Committees of the West Virginia State Council shall be as follows:

- j) Membership and Retention
- k) Family Activities
- 1) Church Activities
- m) Community Activities
- n) New Council Development
- o) Ceremonials
- p) Culture of Life
- q) Athletic Events
- r) Publicity
- j) Website
- k) Keep Christ in Christmas
- I) Vocations

The Special Committees of the West Virginia State Council shall be as follows (the Directors of these committees shall submit reports in writing):

- d) Scholarship
- e) Mentally Handicapped Program
- f) Roundtables
- d) Catholic Schools Dinner
- e) Youth Activities
- f) Council Activities

g) Others as required or recommended by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council or the West Virginia State Council.

#### Article 4

#### Section 4

State Advocate. The State Advocate shall be the attorney of the State Council in case of trail and investigation of any matter whatsoever of interest to the State Council. He shall receive from the State Secretary, a copy of all resolutions, petitions, and amendments which are to be presented at the State Council and after due consideration of same, these shall be referred to the Committee on Resolutions without debate. He shall forward to the Supreme Secretary all resolutions adopted

at the State Convention pertaining to revision of the State Council By-Laws, and additional resolutions that seek Supreme Council or Board consideration. Those resolutions shall be forwarded within ten (10) days of the Convention in accord with Section 22 of the Order's Constitution. He shall have prepared and sent to the Financial Secretary of each subordinate council, not later than the first day of June, forms for the reporting of the name and address of Council Officers elected for the coming year. He shall prepare and cause to have available a report of the proceedings of the State Council Annual and Mid-Year Meetings, said report to be certified by the State Deputy. A copy of the Annual Report shall be distributed to each council at the time of the Organizational Meeting, and the printed copy of the Annual Meeting.

This change reflects ongoing practices of the State Council for the past 7 years.

#### Article 6

#### Section 2

When Effective. The West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, in its annual meeting assembled in Clarksburg, West Virginia, on May 19th and 20th 2018 do hereby repeal all By-Laws heretofore adopted or existing together with amendments thereto and parts thereof, and do hereby enact and adopt the foregoing By-Laws of the West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, and the adoption of which shall become effective and the above repeal shall be considered in force upon the approval thereof by the Supreme Board of Directors, and authority is hereby vested in the elected State Officers of this Council or a majority thereof to conform, change or add to these By-Laws in such a manner and in such respects as will meet the approval and direction of the said Supreme Board of Directors.

By-Laws Committee: Brian Gordon, DD # 1 Doug White, GK Council 872 Rick Corbin, GK Council 10011

#### Changes to Resolutions;

#### Resolution 13

Change the sentence under 'Service Program Awards Criteria' to the following: The Supreme Council Service Program Awards recognizes those councils conducting outstanding projects in each of the four categories of the Faith in Action program model: Faith, Family, Community, and Life. Judging criteria as received from Supreme Council follow:

1. All entries shall be submitted on Supreme Council form STSP, found on the Supreme Council Web-Site. No entry will be considered without this form.

Change item 3 under 'Guidelines for Judging'

2. Results: second sentence How did the results affect Faith, Family, Community or Life ?

Resolution No. 14 WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council and the Supreme Council make awards in addition to the Service Awards addressed in Resolution 13; WHEREAS: The determination of the winners shall be determined in a manner allowing the State Deputy sufficient time to make arrangements for the winners to attend and be recognized at the annual State Council Convention; and WHEREAS: The criteria for those awards differ from

those applied to the Service Awards. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That those Awards and Criteria for judging are as follows:

- 1. Knight of the Year
- 2. Family of the Year
- 3. District Deputy of the Year
- 4. Top Proposer of the Year
- 5. Priest of the Year

Entries for the Knight and Family of the Year shall be forwarded to the State Deputy only prior to May 1st of each year. The winning entry will be determined by the State Deputy and such committee as he determines. The Family of the Year award shall be submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration for the Supreme Council International award. The entry shall be submitted prior to the deadline determined by the Supreme Council. Top Proposer candidates shall also be submitted to the State Deputy only by May 1 st . District Deputy of the Year shall be determined by the State Deputy without committee. (2014) Amended Action: Passed.

Resolution 17 was not passed by the committee. Some folks live close to the Convention will need to stay at the hotel to focus on the meetings, Banquet and other meetings. They should be awarded per diem so they can be at the hotel.

PSD Jerry asked if we can make copies of these changes for tomorrow's meeting for the vote. Mike and Jerry will make these copies happen. Anthony Paletta asked for a change to the drop dead date for the scholarship admissions. There was discussion that it wasn't received by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Anthony needs to research if this date is mentioned in the State by laws or just a requirement of the scholarship rules.

State Advocate asked for a motion to update the by-laws and Resolutions. State Deputy said that can be a function of the Committee.

State Deputy introduced State Membership Director Mike Sarcopski. Mike showed a video from Supreme about on line membership. Mike hopes to get the video put on our website. Mike indicated the on line membership is not a replacement for face to face recruitment. As of Tuesday we need 30 new members. We have now dropped down to 5<sup>th</sup> in the US and 14<sup>th</sup> in the order. As Scott stated N. Dakota, Hawaii, North Carolina and Nevada. There is 3% between us and the next state. We are 80% of our goal what our Supreme goal is and our goal is different. Our goal is 237. At this point we need 67 members to reach the Goal set by State Deputy of 237. There were 20 Councils that did not get any new members. He has spoken to some of them and they have this in the works. Something I am going to pilot this year which will help Anthony with scholarship. We are going to go into the High Schools and tell them about the K of C, Scholarship program and on line membership. The on line folder was given to all at the Midyear meeting. We have to change our focus. There are more and more folks on line. We need to go to where they are. Mike talked about the method of on line membership. First they get on the K of C website. Then they pay their \$30. There is a recruiting card, on the back there is a blank space, they need to put preferred council. After he has registered and paid the \$30, they will be referred to by Mike and the Field agent. They will assign that person to the closest council. They will be associates. If they choose your Council they will take the first degree at your Council. They will have access to all the Programs we have it will be updated quarterly by Supreme and our State Councils. Quarterly it will be updated by supreme and can be updated by our State Council. These guys will attend your meetings as you try to direct them into your Council. Also we can use this to bring in the lost sheep. If they have left the order this is a means to return. Last week I sent an email to all DD's, GK's and Directors. You can also use the first Degree video to help with times you only have one candidate. I strongly recommend using the video. Several questions were asked. They were answered with good answers. Practical Catholicity

was asked about. Supreme Rep. Bob Ennis answered this saying there are lines on the form that are signed that state your Practical Catholicity. If they answer incorrect they are subject to fraud as is several other questions. This is a Pastoral subject. Your Pastor will have the say in weather one is a practical catholic. Your GK should write a letter to the Supreme Secretary if you feel they are not a practical Catholic. Bob indicated there has been over 1,100 candidates who have joined on line. There has not been a problem yet. The candidates will have an associate card to get into your meeting. Until they have the first Degree and get a 1<sup>st</sup> degree card they will not be able to vote. Mike gave a shout to all Knights in the room to puh hard in these last 6 weeks to make our goal.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced our General Agent Mike Burkitt. Mike welcomed all at Convention. Mike introduced all our field Agents.

Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy Field Agents, Brothers All....

It is wonderful to be here and to present to you the Knights of Columbus Insurance and Agency Report. Before doing so I would like to introduce your Field Agents. (Refer to Sheet or if Scott has introduced them already proceed to the following)

The Burkitt Agency continues to make progress and continues to grow! The reason is that we have Men who understand their purpose and mission and who have a deep desire to fulfill that purpose and mission! What is the Mission?

It is the Mission of the Venerable Father Michael McGivney.

Our Men are there to provide knowledge and understanding of what our highly rated products offer and how they "fit" into a Family's Financial Plan. To ensure that every Catholic Family in the Great State of West Virginia is protected properly and adequately with the Orders tremendous portfolio of products. So that when the event of Death, Disability, or when a long term care issue arises; that family can continue to live dignified lives. Because, my brothers, that's what we are all about! This is what drives myself and my brother knight Field Agents. To put it simply, it's all about securing a family's financial future and well-being.

The Knights of Columbus Insurance program remains a pillar of Financial Strength! The Order continues to increase its Insurance in Force! We are a Fortune 1000 Company and very well respected in the industry. As our Insurance Program grows, so does our wonderful world wide charitable efforts.

The Knights of Columbus for the Fifth straight year has earned recognition by the Ethisphere Institute as one of the World's most Ethical Companies. I invite you to view a brief video on this topic... Mike showed video.

I am extremely excited about the future prospects of the Insurance Program here in West Virginia. Since 2014, we have protected many members and are closing in on the 100 million dollar mark of Life Insurance in force. We have a great opportunity ahead of us. Last year, the Agency was ranked 87<sup>th</sup> out of 130 + Agencies. Agencies as do field agents, have quotas too! Last year we finished @ 47.50%. Our goal is for the Insurance program here in West Virginia to be a 100% Agency.

I sincerely believe that one day, my dream that our Agency will reach its potential of being a 100% Agency. With the continued support of the State Leadership and Councils we can achieve this objective. Father Rice in his comments said to Dream it! Well, I am dreaming of the success know that with your help, we can make West Virginia #1.

Our Field Agents are here to share information about our Founding, our Charitable Work, and our Services and Products. We conduct a Tradition of Protection Presentation with every member that reviews so that are kept to speed with latest information and product developments.

The Knights of Columbus Insurance Program does NOT stand still, our leaders consistently work to ensure that our members are provided with the very best products and services. We have a Financial Needs Analysis Tool that is second to none! This tool enables our members to appropriately address their concerns and insure their Family's adequately.

We, thankfully have the sincere support of our Worthy State Deputy. Scott and I have had numerous conversations and interactions regarding the Insurance Program. Scott has visited our Agency to discuss topics of concern.

The Three most important items that need to be present for our Fraternal Organization to flourish is as Scott puts it...

Programs, Membership, and Insurance... The analogy Scott uses is that of the "Trinity" The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. One cannot do without the other...

A perfect example of our growth is what has happened in Morgantown. We now have 4 councils... St. John, St. Luke, and St. Francis of Assisi. It is just amazing to see the growth in Programs, Membership and Insurance in Morgantown.

You have already heard of the tremendous Membership growth the State has experienced in Morgantown. I would also like to note that we currently boast of Larry Zaccagnini who is now ranked 53 out of 1,286 agents. Most of you don't know this but Field Agent have Quota's too! As of April 30, Larry is on pace to finish the year at 200% or better of quota. No pressure Larry, but seriously he would not be able to accomplish this without the support of his councils. The councils here have embraced Larry and he has simply done a wonderful job serving his members.

It is no secret to me that when the relationship between a Council and a Field Agent is as it should be, all concerned thrive! I have an interesting statistic that bears noting with respect to The Million Dollar Round Table. It is a group of highly successful Insurance and Financial Advisors. Less than 2% of all financial professionals achieve the status of MDRT producer. The Knights of Columbus boasts that 14% of the Agency Field Force are MDRT Producers. My goal is to have each and every one of our agents in West Virginia qualify for the Million Dollar Round Table. I am pleased to say that Larry is on his way but again this would not be possible without the support of his Councils. I personally wish to thank Larry's Councils for their support of him. I can't tell you how much it means to me.

So where do we go from here? During one of Scott's visits to the Agency we all discussed how we can grow membership and insurance. We came up with the idea of a promoting a Parish based program called....

The Knights of Columbus Informational Benefit Night

We put some ideas together and I would like share with you the results thus far... (Review the Power Point)

For the first time, The Agent awards will be given out at the Banquet. I wish to thank Scott for suggesting this.

I would like to present one award here now for the simple fact that Eric Mowry will not be with us. Eric has done an outstanding job of late. I wish to personally thank District Deputy Brian Gordon for his support of Eric.

We pride ourselves in a job well done. Eric led the Agency in 2017 with insuring members and their families with \$6,345,000 of life insurance coverage! Thank you Eric for your hard work and dedication to your members.

In closing, I wish to thank Scott, our Worthy State Officers, Program Director Michael McDougle, and councils for their support of the Insurance program.

We are team! Again, when Programs, Membership, and Insurance work together, it creates the foundation for Fraternal Success!

Thank you and God Bless...

Vivat Jesus!

Mike's talk was well received.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced State Treasure Frank Koenig. Frank welcomed all and indicated he was going to give a report on the budget for this year. He said we revenue from four different sources. We receive revenue from Per Capita, WVU Raffle Tickets, K of C Christmas Cards and Catholic School Donations. Hopefully we will do better this year due to the increased Councils and WVU Football team being as good as it is. Our General Fund was \$ 49,900. Our expenses totaled \$ 49,900 so we are back to square one. Our Charity fund was quite good this year. Please support the ticket sales for Seminarian Support, WVU

Raffle and Football Frenzy. These sales are very important to our State Budget. Frank thanked everyone for their time. Franks report was well received.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced State Advocate Mike Stanger. Mike welcomed all. He started out with a Rosary check. It will cost you \$1.00 if you don't have one. Rosary Apps do not count. Several dollars were received from the Rosary check which went to the Mustard Seed Project from the Clarksburg Council.

Speaking of the age exercise, If you are 40 and under raise your hand. Three guys under 40. 50 and under, 60 and under, 70 and under, 80 and under, anyone ninety. Mike asked who is training someone to take their place. A show of 8 hands. We need to do better and train some youth. We heard this message from Supreme, Scott, Mike B. and Mike S. We need youth in our organization to continue the great work of the K of C.

Mike asked for everyone to look at his report in the folder. Thank you for managing your time and come to this meeting.

Safe environment was spoke of and who is required to take the Course. When first looked at this program there were 20 that needed to complete this program we are now down to 9. This is good but we need to do better than that. Mike indicated it was simple to do on the computer. If you don't have one borrow a friends or go to the library. Several questions and comments were spoken of. Mike will continue to check for new officers. Diocese and Boy Scouts don't count these folks are not sharing files. Please take these courses. Home Corporations were the next topic. Of 11 Councils that have buildings six have completed their paperwork and it is being reviewed by Supreme. There are 5 of the eleven that need additional commitments. They are working on it. This seems to be doing good.

State Council Directory was the next topic and told everyone about the form in the packet. Please fill it out correctly and ledge able. If you want the correct information in the Directory make sure I get it. This is for your Assembly and Councils.

There is something that is close to my heart. Please have your Councils check on the widows after the husband has passed. This can be anyone in your Parish also. Ask your priest- "What can I do for you".

Scott Deputy Scott Nale introduced State warden Dave Torlone. Dave asked for any Seminarian Support tickets. The winners will be pulled tonight at the Banquet. As of today we have \$8,800 of ticket sales. It is an increase from last year. Appreciate all the efforts of all the Councils. Dave has given the WVU Raffle tickets to the DD's, please make sure you get them for your Council. Sell them ASAP. \$1.25 goes back to your Council, good way to make money. We will draw it on August 26, 2018. Dave needs the tickets back to him by 8-20-2018. This is in your Letter in the Packet. All three raffles we do send with the 4 part forms. I have some if you need them. All the Money and the top form go to State Secretary Paul. State Treasurer Frank gets the yellow copy. The tickets and the copy of the form go to State Warden Dave. Football Frenzy we are staying with the NFL and not College Football due to a longer season and we can sell more tickets. Dave asked for any questions. WVU winner gets 2 season tickets for whole season. They are very good seats. WVU money goes to State funds. They will be distributed at the Org. Meeting. Remember the seller of the Tickets also gets \$ 100. Dave thanked all. Dave's report was well received.

Scott reminded all to take all your stuff with you, due to the Banquet being in the same room. Rosary and Color Guard times were announced to be at the Church. Deacon Nelson led a prayer for our Convention also a Hail Mary was said. Meeting was adjourned by State Deputy Scott Nale.

#### Sunday Morning Session 5-20-18

Meeting was called to order by our State Deputy Scott Nale State Warden Dave Torlone voiced all members were in position of a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree card.

Rev. Deacon Nelson said opening Prayer followed by a Hail Mary. Pledge Allegiance was said.

Meeting was turned over to past Church Director Doug White to say the Rosary. We said the Rosary from the Silver Rose pamphlet.

Roll Call was done by State Secretary Paul Niedbalski. .He will compare with Credentials Chairman, PSD Junior Bacco and report latter.

State Deputy Scott Nale read the awards from last night into the record; Church Award-16494, Fr. Charles Carroll, Community Award-8689 Allegheny Highlands, Council Award-16494 Fr. Charles Carroll, Family Award-872 Clarksburg, Youth Award-594 Parkersburg, Culture of Life-8689 Allegheny Highlands. Fraternal Agent of the Year- James A. Gildein, Life Insurance Volume leader-Eric Mowry, Pacesetter Award-Stephen Divincenzo Jr., Agent of the Year-John J. Walsh, Top Proposer-1907 Rev. F.J. Flanagen-Moundsville-Lawrence Freeland, Scholship Winner-Statewide-Dylan McCullough, Wheeling Jesuit-Sean Hale, Newsletter of the Year-10545 Keyser Council, David Webb, Family of the Year-Douglas E. White Family 872 Clarksburg, District deputy of the Year- Sam Gross District 2, Knight of the Year-Sande "Bear" Genung, Catholic Layman of the Year Ned Sawyers-Council 9578 King wood.

A Necrology list was read and will be announced at the Org. Meeting Mass.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced State Advocate Mike Stanger. Mike went thru all the Resolutions, all Changes are in the Resolutions posted in this Directory and highlighted. All By-Law changes were read and are posted in this Directory and Highlighted. John Lease motioned the Changes in the Resolutions be accepted. Motion was seconded. No Conversation. Vote was unanimous passed. Changes to the By-Laws was motioned, second, and voted to pass. Mike thanked everyone.

State Deputy Scott Nale asked PSD Junior Bacco for a Credentials report. It was 28 councils 49 votes.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced PSD Gerald Somazze to perform the State officer elections and appointments to the Supreme Convention. Jerry welcomed all. He indicated the rules for election were in the By-laws if anyone wanted to refresh their memory. The election went as follows;

Office	Nomination	Nomination by	Cast Ballot
State Deputy	Scott Nale	Rev. Helgi Nelson	Paul N.
State Secretary	Paul Niedbaiski	Darrell Capral	Paul N.
State Treasurer	Frank Koenig	Carmen Romano	Paul N.
State Advocate	Mike Stanger	John Wakelin	Paul N.
State Warden	David Torlone	Mike Sarcopski	Paul N.

All officers were unanimously voted on.

Supreme Convention Delegate nominations and elections were; Scott Nale- SD Gerry Somazze-PSD Doug White- GK Convention Sponsor Jack Wells and Paul N. were voted on Jack Wells won the vote.

1<sup>st</sup> alt-Paul Niedbaiski 2<sup>nd</sup> alt-Mike Burkitt 3<sup>rd</sup> alt.-James Rand 4<sup>th</sup> alt-Stephen Divincenzo Jr.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced District Master, Program Director, PSD Mike McDougle. Mike welcomed all and said he was here to speak on the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. He indicated there was 18 Assemblies With one Assembly inactive. That makes 19 Assemblies. At this time we have 1033 Sir Knights in the State of WV. Quota was 72 we made this with 81 new Sir Knights. This is the first year in several that 4<sup>th</sup> Degree made its quota. We are alive and growing. A Bi-annual meeting was held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Had a great mtg. Thanks to all that came. Had an exemplification in Beckley and Wheeling. Our next one will be in Bridgeport. Then back to eastern panhandle. Let me know if your Assembly would like to have an exemplification. Mike spoke briefly on the new uniforms. There is a back order due to the amount needed. There are two ways to wear the new uniform. The non-color core which is the trousers, Jacket, white shirt & tie and the p113 pin. Office medals and miniature medals. There is no social baldric worn with the new uniform. Only with Dark suit or Tuxedo. The pin with the flag is not acceptable. The Regalia is with service baldric, swords, gloves and p113 pin. You do not need a tux now to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, Just a dark suit. Sam Gross is our District Marshall. Thanks for your time. Mike's talk was well received.

State Deputy Scott Nale noted the Appreciation Committee did not have their letters yet and their report would be sent via e mail.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced the Audit & Budget Committee. Mark Chesin reported his committee has checked everything and it is in good order.

Scot Nale introduced PSD Dick Sepkowski Chairman of the good of the order. He said the order is good the word is change. Positive change is good. 44 years as State Representative many changes. Tradition suffers with change. From the Vatican to New Haven to the Councils our supreme Knights have molded our order around the Church. We use to be encouraged to make a Council Home. Now the trend is to make the Church our home. Tested Traditions should be kept such as open and closed meetings in concert with the Catholic Church. This is not your Dad's K of C. Changes have made with the times and the society. We are the generation of non-joiners. We must change with the times or get left out. I am asking for more hard mail instead of all these e mails. Give changes a chance. I would like to speak of the Archives. The Archives is very important to our State Council. Archives is a program in motion it will always have new material. I ask if everyone would write

a short narrative about your Council to be put in the Archives. There is an Archivists in Supreme and 2 in the State Dioses and K of C. Make Changes.

State Deputy Scott Nale thanked Dick and proceeded to give the Seminarian Support winners.

The winners and sellers of the Seminarian Support Tickets were;1st Place \$1000 Jennifer Smithseller: Kyle Blethen Council #16224 [\$100]2nd Place \$500 Paul Richardsseller: Paul Richards Council #13887 [\$100]3rd Place \$100 John Whelanseller: John Whelan Council #77723rd Place \$100 Cindy Dotsonseller: Bruce Dusch Council #77723rd Place \$100 Paul Swigerseller: Ed NieseCouncil #942

PSD reports;

Gerald Somazze thanked Clarksburg Council. Pray the Rosary for vocations.

Mike McDougle thanked all for the great turnout.

Darrell Capral thanked Clarksburg thanked Mike Burkitt for the Hospitality have a safe trip. Jerry Schmidt Thanked all the State Officers.

Pat Lamb Have a safe trip say the Rosary for peace.

Junior Bacco Thank Clarksburg and have a safe trip.

John Sine Appreciate the new faces and good work

Dick Shaffer Supreme Council said something yesterday I had to get my hands around. We talk about the good but we never talk about the bad. 1960 was the first Convention we tried to gain the youth. When I was GK I was 30 years old. We gained youth back then and we should be doing it now. The other thing not good is that out of 49 Councils only 28 are represented in the Convention. There a lot of Councils not represented by the GK. This must change. Also I ask the State officers to look at the programs that are not doing good. Maybe stop them.

Dick Sepkowski thanked all for coming. Be very safe going home we need all these wonderful knights.

Gerry Somazze reported the Convention in 2019 will be in Morgantown, in 2020 in Elkin or Inwood.

State Deputy Scott Nale introduced Bob Ennis for closing comments. He said WV had a great Convention. WV is moving forward. PSD has good concern not all things are good. How we get better attendance, Give thought about debate it can be a heard voice. GK's and DGK's need to be in attendance. We must make things happen, it is a real challenge. Make sure K of C has new youth. Keep Members informed, it makes an enormous difference if Councils. Don't worry about what happened, be part of the Happening. Good work WV. State Deputy Scott Nale thanked all for the great attendance. All the hard work is appreciated.

Rev Helgi Nelson Gave a closing Prayer.

## State Deputy Scott Nale adjourned the 116<sup>th</sup> Convention

[NOTE: The audio recordings of this meeting were incomplete. The meeting records were filed from individual notes and/or reports]

# The 116<sup>th</sup> State Council Resolutions



Presented on May 20, 2018 Charleston, WV

# 116<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Convention Resolutions

#### Resolution No. 1

RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council, in its One-Hundred Sixteenth Convention, respectfully and solemnly pledge our loyalty to our Most Reverend Michael J. Bransfield, Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston. We pray that his spirituality will call us to a future, which will be rich in ecumenical experience with all our Christian Brothers. (2017) Amended Action: Passed

#### Resolution No. 2

RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council, in its One-Hundred Sixteenth Convention assembled, gratefully express to our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, our Supreme Officers and Directors, our utmost appreciation for their capable leadership and services during the past year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we, in Convention, assembled in Charleston, West Virginia, are indeed grateful and applaud the presence here with us of Brother Robert Ennis, Director of Canada Growth (2018) Amended Action: Passed

#### Resolution No. 3

RESOLVED: To worthy Convention Chair Grand Knight Doug White and their committees, we express our gratitude in this most successful State Convention. We would like to extend to the Clarksburg, Immaculate Conception Council our sincere appreciation for their beautiful arrangements for the assembled delegates, their wives and guests. (2018) Amended Action: Passed

#### Resolution No. 4

RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus continue to conduct an annual Council Officers Training School in each District of said State Council, same to be conducted under the supervision of the District Deputy. The school is to be attended by the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, General Program Chairman, and one or more Trustees of each Council within each respective District. (1977) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS: The Year of the Family has been extended on a permanent basis by the Bishops of the United States.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council and its subordinate councils of the Knights of Columbus shall engage in programs which will strengthen "The Family" by making our homes the place where we pray together and live our Christian lives together as did the Holy Family. The members of our Order must set good examples to those committed to our care. We will make the Holy Family our ideal and above all we shall make Jesus the very center of our family life, thus preserving the sanctity of "The Family" in this nation. (1988) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 6

WHEREAS: The State Deputy receives requests for contributions to various charitable and emergency organizations; and

WHEREAS: The State Deputy is not always able to determine the legitimate nature of such requests.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That a committee be established to determine the true nature and amount of contribution to be made in response to requests made of the State Deputy. Such committee shall include the State Deputy, a District Deputy, and a Grand Knight to review the request. The State Deputy may choose to name additional members to the committee as he sees fit. (1984) Action: Passed.

Resolution No. 7

WHEREAS: New Councils have very little funds when first established to purchase items needed to function properly.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the State Council of West Virginia will furnish Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to each new council established in West Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Council of West Virginia will purchase a full set of Council Officers Jewels for each new established council in West Virginia. (1992) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 8

WHEREAS: The success of this brotherhood in West Virginia in good times and bad, is due to those Brother Knights who have served as our leaders; and WHEREAS: It is proper that the State Council of West Virginia give formal recognition to the families of deceased leaders so that the often great, difficult, kind, and charitable works of these leaders is not soon forgotten.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the State Secretary shall prepare a necrology for the Mass on the occasion of the Annual State Convention. Said necrology shall include, but not be limited to Past and Present State Officers, Chaplains, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Masters and Faithful Navigators of the Fourth Degree, of West Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Council of West Virginia, in Annual Convention, will read aloud the names of these deceased leaders in conjunction with a memorial service led by the State Chaplain.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the widow, or family, of the deceased leader be sent proper notice on official stationary, signed by the State Deputy of West Virginia, with a copy sent to the current Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator of the deceased members' Council or Assembly. (1993) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 9

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus has in the past sponsored athletic events, which required planning and preparation; and WHEREAS: It is of the utmost importance that these and future activities be conducted from year to year

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the individual councils sponsoring these events/ tournaments shall announce at the annual convention or mid-year meeting the nature of the event and dates and sites of them to the extent possible, and announce the possible use of event proceeds. If it determined that this is a statewide function, the sum of One Dollar (1.00) per participant, with the minimum of one hundred and fifty dollars (150.00) be paid to the host council to aid in covering event expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the host council recognize that many members regard these events as family affairs, and to the extent reasonable, make provisions for other family members in the planning of the event. In addition, these events can be used to recruit new members to our order and bring attention to the community the purpose and scope of the Knights of Columbus. The host council shall determine if the participants are members of our Order, or if the event is open to all members in the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all such events shall be under the direction of the State Athletic Director, who shall have the following responsibilities:

- 1) Promulgate and publish rules and regulations obtained from the host council for each event.
- Determine that the event represents the goals of our Order, any questions should be referred to the State Advocate or Supreme Advocate's office for clarification.

 Ensure that host council forwards the results and prizes to all participants in a timely manner. Not to exceed 10 days from the event. (2017) Amended Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 10

WHEREAS: The State Council office of State Advocate is established to provide the State Officers with legal counsel;

WHEREAS: The previous practice of a practicing attorney serve as the State Advocate is no longer followed;

WHEREAS: In the recent past the State Council has required the service of legal counsel because of legal action against the State Council, or to provide legal advise for other activities of the State Council; and

WHEREAS: It has been necessary to secure such council, or even to proceed without legal counsel.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the position of Associate Advocate be established. Such position shall be filled by a Third Degree member of the Knights of Columbus who is a practicing attorney. The appointment to the position shall be made by the State Deputy in council with the State Council Officers, and the Candidate shall serve at the will and pleasure of the State Deputy. The Associate State Advocate shall attend all State Council meetings, and other meetings of the State Officers as determined by the State Deputy. (1998) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 11

WHEREAS: The number of vocations to the religious life is diminishing each year; WHEREAS: The mother Church needs help in recruiting people for the Religious life;

WHEREAS: There are individuals who are undecided the direction their life should go; and

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus support vocations to the Religious life. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: A West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council will reach out to the Diocesan Vocation Director to offer assistance as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The State Council Vocations Chairman will be responsible for this task. (2014) Amended: Action–Passed

#### Resolution No. 12

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic Organization in the country;

WHEREAS: The Mass is a Catholic Obligation;

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus is Family Oriented;

WHEREAS: The Supreme Council would like each State to perform some worthy church activity yearly; and

WHEREAS: The Rosary is a valuable Prayer, and prior to the Mass, the Rosary is said by the members and family members.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: All West Virginia State Council members are invited to attend Mass in a body with family members each 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. (2001) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 13

WHEREAS: Each year the State Council makes Service Program Awards under Supreme Council categories;

WHEREAS: It is the objective to submit the best program in each category to the Supreme Council for order wide recognition; and

WHEREAS: The Supreme Council has provided the criteria followed in making its choice of the International winners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That those criteria as presented here shall be established as those used to determine State Council winning programs:

#### Service Program Awards Criteria

The Supreme Council Service Program Awards recognizes those councils conducting outstanding projects in each of the four categories of the Faith in Action program model; Faith, Family, Community, and Life. Judging criteria as received from the Supreme Council follow:

- 1. All entries shall be submitted on Supreme Council form STSP, found on the Supreme Council Web-Site. No entry will be considered without this form.
- 2. The project is based on a SINGLE project or activity conducted by the council in the May 1 to April 30 year. It is not a series of activities in a single area of the Service Program.
- A project submitted in the wrong category will be disqualified. A community-wide project to benefit a parish church is a Church activity, not a Community one. Ask the question, "Who benefits from this program?"
- All entries shall be in the hands of the responsible State Activity Chairman by May 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be no exceptions to this deadline.
- The State Activity Chairman will serve as the chairman and additional members of the committee may be appointed by the State Deputy as he may determine to be required.
- 6. No Activity Chairman or Judge will be permitted to judge a project submitted by his council. The State Deputy will contact each chairman to determine if additional judges will be needed but the chairman will not change.
- 7. All judging will be completed prior to the arrival at the State Convention. It is intended that the Awards will be presented at a banquet Saturday evening of the convention. No Council will be permitted to enter a project, which has judged the winning project in the previous three years. This rule does not deny another council to submit a similar project.

#### **Guidelines for Competition Judging**

The following "Basis for Judging" distributed by the State Council shall be used for Service Program Awards.

- 1. *Nature of the activity*: Does it demonstrate the objectives of the Service Program (Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service)?
- 2. *Participation of membership in project*: How many members participated? What percentage of the entire membership participated?
- 3. *Results*: What were the benefits derived from sponsorship of the project? How did the results affect Faith, Family, Community or Life?
- 4. Program Originality: Was the program something new?
- 5. Committee planning: How effectively was the program organized? How much detail was involved in staging the event?

- 6. Delegation of responsibility: How many members served as workers or planners? What type of organization was established for implementation of the project?
- 7. *Publicity*: How effectively was the program publicized throughout the area (Radio and Television, local and diocesan newspapers, and council newsletters)?

While supporting documentation can be submitted, the complete documentation on the current year STSP form should be the controlling factor. It most certainly will be in Supreme Council judging. (2018) Action: Amended. Passed

#### Resolution No. 14

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council and the Supreme Council make awards in addition to the Service Awards addressed in Resolution 15; WHEREAS: The determination of the winners shall be determined in a manner allowing the State Deputy sufficient time to make arrangements for the winners to attend and be recognized at the annual State Council Convention; and WHEREAS: The criteria for those awards differ from those applied to the Service Awards.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That those Awards and Criteria for judging are as follows:

- 1. Knight of the Year
- 2. Family of the Year
- 3. District Deputy of the Year
- 4. Top Proposer of the Year
- 5. Priest of the Year

Entries for the Knight and Family of the Year shall be forwarded to the State Deputy only prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The winning entry will be determined by the State Deputy and such committee as he determines. The Family of the Year award shall be submitted to the Supreme Council for consideration for the Supreme Council International award. The entry shall be submitted prior to the deadline determined by the Supreme Council.

Top Proposer candidates shall also be submitted to the State Deputy only by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

District Deputy of the Year shall be determined by the State Deputy without committee. (2014) Amended Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 15

WHEREAS: All persons associated with the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, together with all other ladies who become associated with them and their successors, are constituted a body corporate by the name Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus;

WHEREAS: The purpose of the organization is (a) to aid the Knights of Columbus Councils; (b) by promoting and conducting educational, charitable and religious work;

WHEREAS: It may adopt a constitution, by laws, rules and regulations for its own government and the advancement of its own well-being; and

WHEREAS: The State Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus would consist of two bodies from each auxiliary. This would include the President and one elected lady. Their goals would be to assist councils in setting up a Ladies Auxiliary if none

has been formed. They would also assist in statewide functions of the Knights of Columbus. (2002) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 16

WHEREAS: The State Secretary is in line for the position as State Deputy. WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has placed emphasis on education of State Officers as to their duties and responsibilities.

WHEREAS: The Supreme Convention affords the delegates an insight into the complexity of the order.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The State Secretary shall be strongly considered for the position of Supreme Convention Delegate during at least one of his two years in the office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The State Secretary should attend the Supreme Convention at least once prior to becoming State Deputy in the normal course of events. If not elected as a delegate and if the funds are available, the State Council will pay his expenses at a delegate rate. (2014) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 17

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the State Council per capita assessment shall be Six Dollars (\$6.00) annually. College Council per capita assessment shall be Two Dollars (\$2.00) annually. Inactive members shall be Four Dollars (\$4.00) annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Council has established the mileage rate at Forty-Five Cents (\$.45) per mile, one way; and a per diem rate of Eighty Dollars (\$80.00), not to exceed two (2) days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Council forward to the State Convention host council the sum of Ten Cents (\$.10) per member, based on the Supreme Council Membership Insurance Program Progress Report dated July 1 of the Fraternal Year of the Convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That attendance of Grand Knights and or Financial Secretary at other meetings called by the State Deputy is vital to the ultimate success of the State Council service programs and communication with subordinate councils. And since personal financial considerations may hinder such attendance, the State Deputy has the discretion to provide Grand Knights and or Financial Secretary a sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for food allowance and Forty-Five Cents (\$.45) per mile, one way, for attendance at "other meetings called by the State Deputy". Total expenditure not to exceed one day per such scheduled meeting. (2017) Amended, Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 18

WHEREAS: The exemplification of the Knighthood Degree is important to the growth of the Order and necessary to teach the lessons of Charity, Unity and Fraternity to all members;

WHEREAS: The Initiation Fee of each new member of the Order is intended to cover the cost of that members initiation in all three Degrees of the Order; WHEREAS: Knighthood Degrees are scheduled well in advance by the State Deputy and are known by all Councils;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That each subordinate Council be assessed at the rate of Five Dollars (\$5.00) for each new member. This fee shall not apply to reinstated members, and subordinate councils shall make note of any corrections to fees charge when remitting fees to the State Secretary. Monies so collected shall be placed in a fund to defray costs of the Exemplification of the Knighthood Degree, and that the State Council shall supplement the fund as required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Presenter of the Fraternal Charge be reimbursed at the current mileage rate of the State Council.

(2014) Action: Amended, Passed

Resolution No. 19

WHEREAS: The success of the State Council, and its operation, and the Subordinate Councils, depends upon information transmitted between the two bodies.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus be made available to the State Officers and each council at the time of the Mid-Year Meeting, and that a transcript the Proceedings of the Mid-Year Meeting be made to the same at the time of the Annual State Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Secretary and the State Treasurer of the West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus submit their required financial reports based on a fiscal year of July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, and that the official reports and audits be distributed at each Mid-Year Meeting. Furthermore, these reports and audits shall include the Charitable and Program Funds, as well as all other West Virginia State Council special purpose funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Deputy be empowered to edit reports of State Officers, District Deputies, State Program Directors and Chairmen, and Grand Knights to each Annual Convention to limit such reports to no more one page. This restriction is not applicable to the State Deputy's Annual Report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a printed copy of the proceedings will be available upon request.

(2003) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 20

WHEREAS: It is proper for the State Council to establish programs to recognize the contributions of both individual Councils and individual Knights for contributions to both the Church and the Order.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That each year a State Church Activity Award be presented to a Council or a Catholic Layman for outstanding support of the Church. The recipient of this award to be chosen from recommendations made by the councils, the State Activities Chairman, the State Deputy and the State Chaplain, with the approval of the Ordinary of the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese.

Recommendations for the award must be submitted to the State Deputy at the annual Mid-Year Meeting, and the choice finalized in time so as to be presented at the following Annual Meeting of the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That because Council Newsletters are an excellent communication to inform not only local council members, but State Officers, State Program Directors and Chairmen of local council activities, each subordinate council publishing a newsletter transmit a copy of the same to all State Officers, Chairmen and Directors, and all West Virginia Grand Knights. A committee under the direction of the State Publicity Director shall determine the best council newsletter and the State Council shall present a suitable award to be presented to that council at the Annual Meeting. (2003) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 21

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus, and it's subordinate councils have continuously supported the Mentally Handicapped Program since 1979; and

WHEREAS: The subject council has established the COLUMBIA MENTALLY HANDICAPPED FOUNDATION as a separate entity with the jurisdiction of the State Council to direct this program. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus, assembled in Convention, is dedicated to continuing this program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all subordinate councils participating in the annual Mentally Handicapped Drive, and following the rules and guidelines set forth under license and registration granted to the West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, that the subordinate council's share of net proceeds from its drive be set at Eighty-Five Percent (85%), and the Columbia Mentally Handicapped Foundation share be set at Fifteen Percent (15%).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Secretary and the State Treasurer of the West Virginia State Council be permitted to transfer from the West Virginia State Council all funds remitted to it from the various drives to the Foundation, except that it shall retain a sum not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,500.00), which the State Council shall use to pay the necessary expenses it may occur for the success of the program (i.e., liability insurance). (2003) Action: Passed.

Resolution No. 22

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus has maintained a State Scholarship Foundation intended to benefit Members of Councils chartered in the State of West Virginia and their children alike, for more than Twenty Years (20); and

WHEREAS: The Fund, which supports the scholarship program, is in constant danger of depletion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus adopts the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas Card Program as a continuing State Council Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That any "bonus" per box sold paid to the West Virginia State Council by the distributor of the Christmas Cards be designated for the State Scholarship Foundation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED: That when the Scholarship Foundation principal on deposit and/or invested of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) is realized, this resolution does revert to the floor of the next Annual Meeting of the West Virginia State Council for reconsideration of reassignment of the State Council's "bonus" per box.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council adopt the NFL Sweepstakes Program as a continuing program, and that Sixty Percent (60%) of the profits be transferred to the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Foundation, Inc., after the first \$5,000 profits has been realized which goes to the Catholic Schools Dinner as stated in Resolution No. 23. (2017) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 23

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus and it's subordinate councils in convention assembled, continue to offer our services and support to our Bishop, Priests, and Religious, in all categories.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus is firmly in accord in providing our Bishop with financial aid in the education of candidates to the Priesthood, continue to support the Bishop's Burse Program began in 1936.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That subordinate councils demonstrate their unceasing effort to improve the Vocations programs of our Diocese and the Supreme Council through the RSVP Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Prayer for Vocations be recited at all State and Subordinate Council Meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That support of Catholic Schools is important to both our Bishop and all members of the Knights of Columbus of the West Virginia State

Council, designates the first Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) of proceeds of the NFL Football Sweepstakes for the Catholic Schools Dinner as a supplement to the contributions of the subordinate councils. (2003) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 24

WHEREAS: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus needs to join into the 21<sup>st</sup> century;

WHEREAS: The need of the West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus needs to be able to communicate with the rank and file members of all councils in the State; and

WHEREAS: We need to establish a web site on the Internet and be able to have two-way communication with our Brother Knights.

THEREFORE. BE IT RESOLVED: That a State of West Virginia Internet site be established and that the necessary funds to host this site and to obtain and keep a domain name be approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State Deputy shall appoint a web master and shall oversee the site. The domain name will be known as; "wvkoc.org." (2003) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 25

WHEREAS: Grand Knights are chosen leaders for all Knights of Columbus Councils in West Virginia;

WHEREAS: Grand Knights are enlisted with the direct responsibilities for leading and guiding the destination of their councils; and

WHEREAS: The numerous hours devoted by grand knights in fulfilling their leadership responsibilities often go unnoticed with little or no recognition for their services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That April of each fraternal year be designated as "Grand Knight Month", whereby, all First Degree ceremonies held during April are to be conducted with the names of Grand Knights as class honorees. (2005) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 26

WHEREAS: The Supreme Council has established a Matching Fund Program whereby contributions from the West Virginia State Council will be matched by the Supreme Council on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to a maximum of \$5.00 per member of West Virginia, said funds to be contributed to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. and the earnings thereon to be paid annually for charitable purposes as established in this resolution; and

WHEREAS: It is deemed beneficial to charitable programs of West Virginia State Council to avail itself of such a matching fund program and thereby enter into a cooperative arrangement with the Supreme Council whereby the charities of the West Virginia State Council will receive greater benefits.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the 2006 annual meeting of the West Virginia State Council hereby adopts this resolution so as to enter into the Matching Fund Program proposed by Resolution 134 adopted at the 1992 Supreme Council Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council shall donate to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. the \$30,000 of the monies raised at various fund raising events, and monies to be transmitted to Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the fund raising event, it being understood that the monies be received and credited as of June 30 and December 31 of each year only.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we hereby designate the following to be the recipients of the earnings on our portion of the Christopher Fund: The West Virginia

Knights of Columbus Scholarship Foundation, Inc. which includes the following Board Members: Immediate Past State Deputy, State Deputy, State Advocate, President, Secretary and Treasurer, it being of the earnings on our portion of the Christopher Fund: the West Virginia Knights of Columbus Scholarship Foundation, Inc., it being understood that the earnings disbursed by check to these recipients but forwarded after April 1 of each year to State Deputy of West Virginia for appropriate presentation, it being further understood that the recipients may be changed from time to time by a State Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we hereby establish a special committee as follows; the members of the board of the West Virginia Knights of Columbus Scholarship Foundation, Inc. to administer the West Virginia State Council's participation in the Christopher Fund, said committee to be known as the Christopher Fund Committee and to be composed of not more than six members of said committee, said committee to perform all acts that are necessary in administering the West Virginia State Council's participation in the Christopher in the Christopher Fund. (2006) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 27

WHEREAS: Young members are continuously being heralded as the most important resource needed for growth and development of any organization;

WHEREAS: The various subdivisions of the Knights of Columbus are continuously stressing the need for recruiting young members; and

WHEREAS: Many young prospective members refrain from joining the Knights of Columbus due to financial hardship.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That members within the age group of 18 years of age to 21 years of age will be exempt from paying West Virginia State Council per capita dues, and at the discretion of subordinate council dues until their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. If a Knight is enrolled in a duly qualified institution of higher learning as a full-time student, the age for exemption shall be raised to 25 years of age. The State Council will not be obliged to exempt a subordinate council dues. In addition, the Financial Secretary must notify the State Secretary of any and all members in this category. Members within this exempt status remain obligated for paying Supreme Council's per capita dues, Catholic Advertisement Assessment and the Culture of Life Assessment. (2012) Amended Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 28

WHEREAS: Parochial education, whether directly through Catholic Schools or Parish supported C.C.D. classes, have been the backbone of Catholic teaching of young adults.

WHEREAS: Priests, Principals, Teachers and parents of children have created a common goal necessary to insure the highest quality of education of young adults. WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus has strongly supported Catholic Education. WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus is committed to inform the Catholic community of its various programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The State Deputy along with the State Officers shall create a Special committee to work with Priests, Deacons, school principals, C.C.D. coordinators and P.T.O. leaders to keep them informed of Knight of Columbus activities and to assist those educators in potential projects, which would enhance the quality of the Catholic education. This joint cooperation and shared knowledge can result in Catholic men in good standing to seek more information concerning the Knights of Columbus and to apply for membership in the order. (2012) Action: Passed.

Resolution No. 29

WHEREAS: The Catholic Church teaches that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which is known through both reason and divine revelation; and

WHEREAS: The right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom means that all persons are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no person should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

WHEREAS: During his visit to the United States in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that is should never be necessary to deny God in order to enjoy our rights and that it is inconceivable that believers should have to suppress their faith in order to be active citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Church consistently teaches that religious freedom is an inalienable right which should be recognized in the governing laws of each country in such a way that it is acknowledged as a basic civil right; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance and that can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom is at the very heart of human rights because it encompasses freedom of speech, assembly and conscience, which together form the basis of civil society and respect for the individual; and

WHEREAS: On August 1, 2011, the U.S. Department of the Health and Human Services issued preliminary regulations pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that require all Americans to subsidize health insurance plans that provide coverage for surgical sterilizations and contraception, including abortifacients such as "morning after" pills; and

WHEREAS: These abortion-inducing drugs attack a developing unborn child either before or after implantation in the mother's womb; and

WHEREAS: On January 20, 2012, the Obama Administration finalized this mandate and announced that non-profit religious institutions, including the Catholic Church, would have one year to comply with the rule, and that no exemption would be granted for Catholic hospitals, dioceses, charities, social service agencies, schools, colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS: The mandate also forces private Catholic employers and businesses – such as the Knights of Columbus – to provide all employees with insurance coverage that includes abortion-inducing drugs, contraception, and sterilization; and WHEREAS: On February 10, 2012, the Obama Administration offered to religious organizations a so-called "accommodation" which did not change the mandate and was quickly rejected by the U.S. bishops because Catholic organizations and individuals would still be forced to violate their religious convictions; and WHEREAS: One of the rationales for this mandate – that abortifacients,

contraceptives and sterilization are less expensive than child birth – lays the groundwork for the government to one day mandate that all health insurance plans include abortion; and

WHEREAS: This mandate sets a dangerous precedent and represents one of the most serious intrusions on religious freedom in our lifetimes; and

WHEREAS: In a recent meeting with bishops from the United States, Pope Benedict XVI expressed concern over "certain attempts being made to limit that most cherished of American freedoms, the freedom of religion;"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we will never waver in our efforts to defend religious freedom as an inherent right of all Americans; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That as American citizens and as Knights of Columbus, we will steadfastly support the free exercise of religion as it is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That we stand in solidarity with our bishops in their call to the Catholic faithful, and to all Americans, to join together in the great struggle to oppose this mandate and to protect religious liberty and freedom of conscience; and FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon President Obama to rescind this mandate which is a clear and direct violation of our religious liberty rights; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon Congress to pass, and the President to sign, legislation that will protect the constitutional right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion in health care and all other matters; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That we will remain steadfast in our opposition to any future governmental action or policy that forces Catholic institutions and individuals to violate our most deeply held moral and religious convictions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That our struggle for religious freedom at this decisive moment in our nation's history is not only for our sake, but for the sake of our children, our grandchildren and all future generations, so that they too may know a country that is "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." (2012) Action: Passed.

#### Resolution No. 30

WHEREAS, The Seventh Precept of the Catholic Church states that we shall participate in the evangelization of the Church; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II called all Catholics to be part of the "New Evangelization," which is an effort to inspire "culture Christians" to rediscover the Faith and live it

more fully. It is about re-proposing the Good News of Jesus in a fresh new way; and WHEREAS, there are nine Catholic Radio stations on the air in West Virginia and several more preparing to come on air;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the West Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus, do hereby morally back these stations and we urge the local councils to make financial contributions either directly to a Catholic Radio station in their area or through the Catholic Radio Association PO Box 3744 Charleston WV 25337 (2013) Action: Passed

#### Resolution No. 31

WHEREAS, The West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council has been inexistence for one-hundred sixteen years, and

WHEREAS, The successful moral growth of the Council promotes on going activities beneficial to our Church, our families, our communities and our Country, and WHEREAS, The activities need to be recorded and preserved for posterity, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The West Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus will establish and maintain a permanent program to support archives pertaining to the jurisdictions history, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The appointed position of State Council Archivist be filled at the discretion of the State Deputy. (2016) Approved: Action: Passed