

Owatonna



Council 945

The Key

to greater Council unity.

AUGUST
2014

COLUMBIAN CENTER

820 Elm Avenue South
P.O. Box 623
Owatonna, MN 55060
507.451.6103

KC LOUNGE

Open: Mon-Sat 3:30-12:30
Happy hour Mon-Fri 4 - 6
Free Hors d'oeuvres during
Friday happy hour.
Member discount for Hall rental.

BAR BINGO

Every Tuesday in the
Lounge at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Officers Meeting - KC Hall,
First Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
General Meeting - KC Hall,
Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Fourth Degree Meeting - KC Hall,
Fourth Thursday 7:30 p.m.

KC WEBSITE

visit our website
www.kofccouncil945.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 4 - Officers' and Gambling
Meeting
KC Hall - 7:30 p.m.
August 4 - Building Meeting
KC Hall - 7:00 p.m.
August 6 - General Meeting
Brown Park
Meal - 6:00 p.m.
August 12 - 17 - Steele County
Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds
August 28 - Fourth Degree
Summer Picnic
Gainey Park - 6:00 p.m.
September 27 - Fall Fishing Trip

Council Unveils New Web Site

A new and improved web site has been developed to better communicate important news about your council and also give you an opportunity to volunteer for one of our many activities. There is even an inter-active feature that allows you to send a birthday greeting to your brother knights. Go to www.kofccouncil945.org and check it out.

COMING EVENTS

OFFICERS' MEETING

Monday, August 4
KC Hall
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.



FOR GREAT FOOD
AT THE FAIR
KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
FOOD STAND

Steele County Free Fair
Aug. 12 - 17
The KC Food Stand is located between
the Beer Garden and Fair Square.
"Downright Delicious Food"
YOUR CHOICE OF GREAT BRATS AND
our tasty "Holy Mojo sandwich"
Please contact Jerome Spindler at (507) 213-0079
if you would like to volunteer to help.

BINGO AT THE FAIR

St. Mary's Home & School Association will be
running the bingo stand at the
Steele County Free Fair this year.
The bingo stand is located east of the
Four Seasons building.
Come and Play!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRANDSTAND BEER SALES

Steele County Free Fair
Tuesday, August 12 and Sunday, August 17
Please contact LaVerne Klecker at 451-4102 or
(507) 456-6738 or
Joe Elbert at (507) 279-4015
if you would like to help.

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CLUB

Serving potato salad and BLTs
every Tuesday in August
5:45 - 6:45 p.m. in the Lounge

THE BOYS OF SUMMER ARE BACK

Stop at the Hall to catch all the Twins action and
play *Taters for Toddlers* and guess the score to
win free drinks.

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 6
Brown Park
Meal - 6:00 p.m.

Note that our August Council meeting will be held
August 6 at Brown Park, located at 356 16th St. SW.

We will be treating the Tootsie Roll workers to a
meal, a preview of our Fair Stand menu. All members,
spouse/guest are invited to attend.

Checks will be presented to the Tootsie Roll Fund
Drive beneficiaries: Therapeutic Recreation
(Owatonna Park & Recreation), Rainbow
Residence, Cedar Valley Services, and Steele County
Special Olympics

A short meeting will follow the meal.

We look forward to seeing you there!

SUMMER STEAK FRIES ARE BACK

Served in the Lounge
Friday, August 1, 8, and 22
Served from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Serving our Marinated Grilled Steaks, Windsor
Chops, or Chicken Kabobs
Served with salad, baked potato, & roll

THE KC CHORUS

will sing your favorite patriotic & folk songs
Steele County Free Fair
Tuesday, August 12 - 4:30 p.m.
Fair Square



FALL FISHING TRIP

Once again, we are planning a
Fall Fishing Trip to Cut Foot
Sioux (off the NE corner of
Lake Winnibigoshish) and there is room for you to
join the trip. The reserved dates are Sept 27 - Oct
1, returning on Oct 2. Fishing has been good on
this trip during the past few years - and the fall
color scenery is really nice as well. The trip
includes one free dinner (usually Sunday)
provided by Mark and the Columbian Center.
For more info, please contact Walt Spindler
at (451-7613).

I-35 FALL CLEAN-UP

There will be NO Fall Clean-up in September due
to construction on I-35. Watch *The Key* for
details on a Spring Clean-up.

Chaplain's Message by Rev. Michael Cronin

Dear Brother Knights,

It has been a great pleasure to serve in Owatonna these last two years and to get to know the great KC Council here. It is so nice to see an active and committed Council. You have good reason to be proud of your work as a Council and your work to support the community and the whole Church.

As I move on to a pastorate just down the road in Janesville and Waldorf, please know that you will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

You are great men of faith and as men of faith I hope that you will continue to do what you can to build up the priesthood by praying for and continuing to support priests and seminarians. As you come across young men, encourage them to join the Knights but also ask them if they have ever considered a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. It is not an easy vocation but nothing worthwhile is easy.

The Church faces many challenges but The Lord will see us through and bring us peace.

May God bless you always!

Aid & Assistance by Greg Nelson



Please remember in your prayers and thoughts all of our sick or injured members of the Knights of Columbus and their families. Let's also offer up prayers for all deceased members and their families.

Let us be united in prayer for those facing ongoing challenges...

John Berning, Bruce Born, Fr. Michael Cronin, Jack Dillemath, Marilyn Dillemath, Lois Doyle, Mary Floersch, Rose Hoffman, Sharon Skala, Jim Klecker, Marlys Knight, Don Loeb, Bev Macht, Gil Mamer, Msgr. James McCauley, Mary Meixner, Bob McDermott, Suzanne Miedema, Father Ed Mountain, Dorothy Mulert, Darlene Mumm, Karen Pirkel, Ray Pirkel, Kevin Raney, Sharon Rohwer, Ron Schleif, Howard Snyder, Jeanine Snyder, Duane Spindler, Gary Wandrey, Jerry Weber, Earl Wheeler, Irene Wierzbinski, Jim Wierzbinski, Shirley Wierzbinski, and Jan Wolf.

INMEMORY

Please remember in your prayers the following individuals and their families:

Brother Knight Stanley G. Ennis passed away on July 18.

Terry Nelson, mother of Brother Knights Stephen and Jim Nelson, and grandmother of Brother Knight Sam Nelson passed away on July 21.

If anyone knows of a Brother Knight who is sick or injured, please call Greg Nelson at (507) 676-1748.

An old Cherokee told his grandson, My son, there is a battle between two wolves inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, jealousy, greed, resentment, inferiority, lies & ego. The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, empathy & truth.

The boy thought about it, and asked, Grandfather, which wolf wins?

The old man quietly replied, The one you feed.

Grand Knight's Message by Dan Wolfe

Brother Knights:

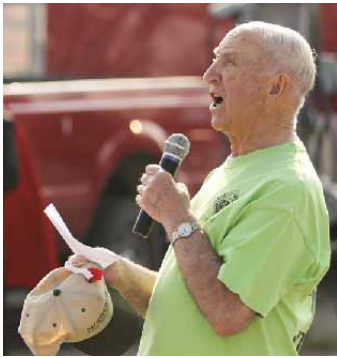
We Change Lives, We Save Lives. That is the motto by which our MN State Deputy Joe Konrardy views the work of the Knights of Columbus. This short but powerful statement clearly hits the mark as to what we collectively do as a council within our parish and local community. Just think about the many charitable works that are carried out directly by our membership or are significantly supported financially through our fund raising efforts. We truly do help change lives for the better. Our support of our church's ministry, parish outreach programs, our Catholic school and religious education programs which foster commitment to our Catholic faith and Christian ideals of our next generation of leaders. Our unwavering support for the rights of the yet to be born children of tomorrow. This list goes on and on. When you step back and see the big picture, you see the lives we touch, the souls we foster, the message we carry. We can and do truly make a difference in the lives of others, especially those less fortunate. So take pride in your work as a member of the Knights of Columbus and truly appreciate the good works that you make happen each and every day.

We Change Lives, We Save Lives. This message also resonated with me while I participated with fellow brother knights in last month's Relay for Life event. This was the first year that Council 945 has formed a fund raising team for the event, however many individuals from our council, along with their families and friends have participated in this event over the years, honoring the memories of loved ones lost to cancer and celebrating with those survivors who have won their fight with the disease. As I walked along the path that was illuminated by the hundreds of luminaries, each bearing the name or an image of someone whose life was touched by cancer, I recognized names of past friends and past Brother Knights, as well as the family members of friends and current Knights. But, the message of the evening was one of hope and celebration. Hope that one day soon a cure will be found and celebration of the many more lives that have been saved by research breakthroughs and medical advancements that were made possible thru funds raised at events such as Relay for Life. *Change Lives, Save Lives.* Though we had a short timeframe to prepare, our council raised nearly \$1,500 for the event which we were very pleased with. Everyone involved were already planning for what we would do for next year's event so I am quite sure we will have a much greater turnout of support next year. A huge thank you goes out to Wade Schroeder who got the ball rolling on our participation and chaired this effort.

And speaking of participation, let me remind everyone that August is Steele County Fair time and our council has a big commitment with our fair food stand and grandstand beer sales activities. These events require lots of manpower so I urge everyone to consider volunteering a couple hours of your time during fair week to help out at either event. The more people who volunteer even an hour or two makes it less burdensome on everyone else. We have a great tradition at the fair so let's make it a team effort. Plus it's a lot of fun. Call now, operators are standing by to take your call to volunteer. I look forward to seeing many of you at the fair stand. One last reminder, there is a change on our August Meeting schedule. Our August General Meeting will be held on Wed. August 6th at Brown Park. It will feature a picnic with food and drink so come and share a meal and fellowship. We will also be distributing the proceeds for the Tootsie Roll Fundraiser to the various agencies that support individuals with developmental disabilities. *Change Lives, Save Lives.*

Vivat Jesus

SMOKIN' IN STEELE 2014



Peter Schneider singing the National Anthem.



SK Lynn Becker displaying the flag.



2014 Grand Champions



Backyard BBQ champion.



Kids Q contestants.



5K Run starts.



Brother Knight Del Point.



Special Olympic participants in the bean bag toss.



Linda Klecker participating in the 5K Run.

Thanks again to everyone for a successful 2014 Smokin' in Steele! See you in 2015.

SMOKIN' IN STEELE 2014

The 7th annual Smokin' in Steele was held May 30, 31, and June 1. All of us on the committee say a collective thank you to all of our Brother Knights and their families.

About 175 workers volunteered at some time or another, too many to try and name individually. Some work the year round, others help in the months and weeks leading up to the event and a lot work at some time or another during the event and with clean up after. Then there are those who, even though they are not working, come and participate by attending.

And it is not just Knights – spouses and families are frequently involved. All of the help is important and all of it is greatly appreciated. Thank you again and again.

Our own Scout Troop is also heavily involved. Again this year about 60 Scouts, leaders, and parents sold pop and popcorn and helped park cars. Thank you to all of them.

Just as in the past, the recipient of our profits is Special Olympics of Owatonna and Steele County. This year representatives of Special Olympics actively attended our committee meetings and were more involved in the planning of our event. As a result Special Olympians were more visible and participated more during the weekend. All of that was good to see.

2014 was an amazing year for Smokin in Steele for many reasons. Here are some highlights –

Gopher Sports came forward and wanted to partner with us for the 5K race. They wanted to help Special Olympics and the race fits with their company. They committed significant time, treasure, and talent that elevated our event and resulted in about 175 or so runners participating this year. When you see Gopher Sport employees, thank them for being a great partner.

Fareway Foods put up extra prize money for category winners if they used Fareway Meats. The store and their employees were great partners who participated, learned more about competition BBQ, and enhanced our contest.

Three of the four category winners earned the Fareway Bonus – two of those were perfect scores. Our Grand Champion used all Fareway meat, but did not win a category outright and Fareway awarded him a bonus as well. When you shop at Fareway or see their employees, identify yourself as a Knight and thank them please.

We formed an alliance with the Central Iowa BBQ, Brew and Cruise contest in Boone Iowa organized by Ron and Dena Milhous (they are KCBS Reps for us).

The team earning top cumulative points from their contest plus ours earns a free entry to both contests next year.

We had 67 pro teams this year, the most ever. And the line up included a stellar field of powerhouse teams. Our reputation with teams is that this is the Minnesota contest you do not want to miss.

We had 15 Backyard teams this year, the most ever

We had 21 kids in the Kids O, for the second year we had sponsors Fruita Wood Chunks and BBQ Supply and Krenits Meats return. Brother Knights from Waseca again came and helped insure safe cooking for our young chefs.

The line up of bands for our Blues Fest was outstanding again and utilized both the Beer Garden and Fair Square for seamless wall to wall wonderful music.

As usual, a large group of Blues fans came, some camped, and enjoyed some of the very best music anywhere.

There were more sponsors than ever and we rewarded them with a VIP dinner attended by close to 200.

The modified garden tractors again snorted and snarled. The air was full of the sound of spinning tires and roaring exhaust coupled with the smells of burnt rubber and spent fuel.

The Antique Tractor Show had more tractors than last year as well.

Receipts in the Beer Garden topped last year too, thanks to many thirsty people and great weather. Even the thunderstorm Saturday just barely missed us.

Sunday morning the pancake breakfast again fed hundreds of hungry people right in the Beer Garden.

We don't have specific numbers for dollars because all bills are not in. It is safe to say that this year was our best so far.

Please go to www.smokininsteele.com to see the results of our pro contest and to look at the hundreds of photos of this year's event.

So Brother Knights of Council 945, there is a lot to be happy about and proud of with Smokin' in Steele. We have grown from nothing to a major regional family event that attracts participants from all over the midwest and thousands of spectators. Our base committee is already working to make next year even better.

Our committee is made up of dedicated and loyal members. With our growth we are looking for some more people who want to get involved. Interested? Contact PGN Brother Joe Elbert.



John Hammer

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN HAMMER!

John Hammer has been elected to the MN Blues Society Hall of Fame!

You know all the hard work John does for us. Well, he does great work for a lot of others too.

And his peers in the MN Blues community have recognized that dedication with this great honor.

This is a well deserved recognition for all that John does.

2014-15 COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain: Rev. Michael Cronin
Grand Knight: Dan Wolfe
Deputy Grand Knight: Dave Lax
Chancellor: Gary Sanford
Advocate: Nicholas Matejcek
Warden: Thomas Burke
Inside Guard: Pete Schneider
Outside Guard: Harlan Kern
Financial Secretary: John Ahlberg
Treasurer: Tom Eichten
Recorder: Ben Lampinein
Trustee (3 year): PGK Randy Balausk
Trustee (2 year): PGK Wade Schroeder
Trustee (1 year): PGK Dustin Reese

Directors and Chairmen

Program Director: Dave Lax (DGK)
Membership Director: LaVerne Klecker (PGK)
Adv/Publicity Director: Dan Ruiters
Aid & Assistance: Greg Nelson
KC Chorus Director: Stephen Nelson
Building Director: Tom Elbert
Director of Church Activities: Pete Schneider
Director of Community Activities: Open
Director of Council Activities: Open
Director of Youth Activities: Will Pieper
Dir. of Family Life Activities: Stephen Nelson
Gambling Manager: Randy Balausk (PGK)
District Deputy: Randy Balausk (PGK)
KC Hall Manager: Mark Cunningham (PGK)
Benefits Advisor: Kevin Gallagher - 213-9410

Knight of the Month



Bruce Born

The June Knight of the Month has worked more than a quarter-century for the good of his community.

Bruce Born has logged a lot of service hours over those years as a member of Council 945. Those service hours have included handing out Tootsie Rolls, benefit breakfasts, Smokin' in Steele, and in the past, he would even take a week's vacation just so he could work the food stand at the Steele County Free Fair. Bruce also is one of the original members of the Fourth Degree in Owatonna.

Bruce is a native of Ellendale, but has lived in Owatonna since 1979. He and his wife Denise are members of Sacred Heart Church. The couple has three grown children and three grandchildren. He is approaching retirement, and says he is happy to help when he can.

"There's really no best part about being a Knight," Bruce said. "I enjoy being around the people. They're all very friendly, whether we're working hard or just having a good time."

In his spare time, Bruce enjoys boating and spending time with his grandchildren.

Of the Knight of the Month award, Bruce said, "I'm grateful, but I'm not sure I'm deserving." However, Council 945 is grateful for the many years of fellowship and service from Bruce. Congratulations to the June Knight of the Month, Bruce Born!

Membership by LaVerne Klecker

We are planning to have a First Degree Exemplification at the KC Hall in Owatonna, date yet to be determined. If your son or grandson is home for the summer, please invite him to join the Knights of Columbus.

We need the help of our entire membership to make our Council's membership goal. Now is the time to make contact with your prospective member. If you need any material or help in signing up a member, please contact me at (507) 451-4102 or (507) 456-6738. The publication rack at the club also has Form 100s and information brochures. New members are important to our Council. Don't wait any longer, call and visit your prospective member today. Explain our Council's accomplishments and invite them to join us, they will thank you.

The members in the KCs who are involved in our projects have a lot of enthusiasm and enjoy the projects that they participate in. We need to continue to sign up new members to provide us with new ideas for projects that we could bring into our Council.

Thank you to all the members who have paid their dues for this year. Any members who have not paid their dues for the past year, please get them paid. Statements have been sent out for the 2014 dues. Please pay them as soon as possible so you can remain a member in good standing. We need the money from our dues to make ends meet for our Council expenses.

Benefits Corner by Kevin Gallagher

It is with mixed emotions I announce my retirement as your Knights of Columbus insurance representative effective August 1, 2014. It has been my honor to serve you the past few years and I sincerely thank each of you for that privilege. For those of you who have taken advantage of the superior products the Knights offers rest assured you would be hard-pressed to have made a better choice.

If you need assistance or have questions pertaining to any of your Knights of Columbus contracts or additional coverage(s) please contact Aaron (or Kathy) Jelinek at 952-513-8784 and they will be happy to assist you. Please keep this number for future reference.

I wish all of you the very best.

Fraternally Yours,

Kevin Gallagher, LUTCF, FIC



**SEE YOU
AT THE
STEELE COUNTY
FREE FAIR**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council No. 945
P.O. Box 945
Owatonna, MN 55060

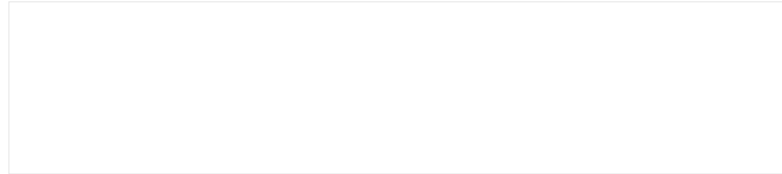
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



General Meeting
Wednesday, August 6
Brown Park - Meal - 6:00 p.m.

Steele County Free Fair
Steele County Fairgrounds
August 12 - 17
Enjoy a brat at the KC Food Stand.

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Owatonna, MN
Permit No. 202

**AUGUST 2014**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	2
3	4 Officers' Meeting and Gambling Meeting - 7:30 pm Bldg Mtg - 7:00 pm	5 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	6 General Meeting Meal - 6:00 pm Brown Park	7	8 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	9
10	11	12 NO Bar Bingo First day of the Steele County Free Fair KC Chorus Fair Square	13 Enjoy a Brat at the KC Food Stand	14 Play a game of Bingo at the St. Mary's Home & School Assn. stand	15 Enjoy all the activities at the Steele County Free Fair	16 Enjoy a Holy Mojo sandwich at the KC Food Stand
17 Last day to enjoy rides and food at the Steele County Free Fair	18	19 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	20	21	22 Summer Steak Fries KC Hall 6:30 - 7:30 pm	23
24	25 .	26 Bar Bingo - 7:00 pm Tuesday Night at the Club 5:45 - 6:45 pm	27	28 Fourth Degree Summer Picnic Gainey Park 6:00 pm	29	30
31						